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BARODA ADMINISTRATION REPORT 1942-43

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Baroda,
18th December, 1943.

May it please Your Highness,

I have the honour to submit the Administration Report for the year 1942-43.

A summary of important activities in the year is attached at the end of the report.

I remain,
Your Highness' most obedient servant,
V. T. KRISHNAMACHARI,
Dewan.

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Baroda Administration Report

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

TERRITORY — The Baroda State consists of five territorial blocks which lie scattered over Gujarat and Kathiawar, to which natural division it wholly belongs.

The southern district of Navsari lies on either side of the Tapti, forming a mosaic with the villages of the Surat collectorate, and is separated from the Baroda district by the States of the Rewa-Kantha and the Broach district. The western talukas of the district, the Rasti mahals, are flourishing and prosperous. Their rich soil grows good varieties of cotton, fruit and sugarcane. The rivers Tapti, Ambika and Purna drain them from east to west. The eastern parts, forming the talukas of Songadh and Vyara, are called the Rani mahals and comprise areas of forests and backward people — the Raniparaj. The central talukas, Mangrol and Mahuva, combine the features of the Rasti and Rani mahals.

The river Narmada, with its picturesque banks, forms the southern boundary of the Baroda district. Almost in the centre, lies the capital of the State, Baroda, a city of palaces and stately public buildings, of parks and recreation grounds, of broad well-laid roads and beautiful avenues, of colleges, schools and hospitals, a city worthy to be the seat of a modern and progressive State. There are four clearly marked tracts in this district. The tract beyond the Mahi, comprising the talukas of Petlad and Bhadrar, forms part of Charotar, famous for the fertility of its soil and the variety and the richness of its crops, specially tobacco. The central talukas of Baroda and Padra have a composite soil in which sand and lime are intermixed. The bleak and tree-less country to the south is a part of the Kahnar area. It consists of the talukas of Dabhoi, Sinor and Karjan, and produces some of the finest cotton in India. Finally, to the north and south-east is a country of low forests and numerous ravines.

Further to the north, beyond Ahmedabad, lies the Mehsana district, with its historic towns of Patan and Sidhpur, and its archaeological ruins and monuments of historic interest and beauty. Mehsana, the district headquarters, is an important junction on the B. B. & C. I.

Railway line to Malwa and Rajputana. The eastern part of the district consists of fertile and well-wooded country, the west is drier and more barren. Except the trans-Sabarmati area, which is wild and picturesque and cut up by many ravines, the district is a sloping plain unrelieved by hills or rivers.

In Kathiawar, far to the west, isolated and dispersed territories form the districts of Amreli and Okhamandal. The central block of the Amreli district is fertile and well cultivated except in the south where it touches the Gir. Providence has been bountiful to Kodinar and given it fertile soil and abundant water.

Okhamandal has its headquarters at Dwarka, an ancient place of pilgrimage, sacred to the Hindus. The country is bleak and barren, "where even stunted trees are bowed low by the subservient winds in obeisance to Dwarka's Lord." In recent years, however, unsuspected sources of wealth have been discovered. The Port of Okha, with its excellent harbour, has become one of the principal ports of Kathiawar and west India; and industrial concerns like the Associated Cement Company and the Tata Chemicals have been established here. These developments promise to turn a desolate area of the State into one of the richest.

The area and population of these districts are given below:—

District	Area in square miles	Population
Baroda	1,933	959,416
Mehsana	3,080	1,180,541
Navsari	1,811	465,923
Amreli	1,071	206,543
Okhamandal	281	42,587

2. HISTORY — The extraordinary configuration of the Baroda territory—its diversity and fragmentation—is the legacy of two centuries of military exploits, internecine wars and financial and administrative mismanagement. When Pilajirao, the founder of the fortunes of the Gaekwar family, captured Songadh, the hill fortress which commands the southern approaches to Gujarat, he laid the foundation of a new power, which rose on the ruins of the Mughal Empire. The establishment of a principality at Songadh, its extension to include the territory which now forms the Baroda district and the defeat of the other chieftains who disputed the supremacy of the Gaekwar power, was the work of Pilajirao, during his brief career of eleven years between 1721 and 1732. The achievements of his successor, the

able and energetic Damaji (1732-68), were equally brilliant. He completed the conquest of Gujarat, extended the Maratha power into Kathiawar, and so strengthened his position that he aspired to be independent of the Peshwa. It is unnecessary to go into the details of the relations between the Peshwa and the Gaekwar during this period. In the middle of the eighteenth century came the partition of Gujarat and of all future conquests between them. The distribution of territories was effected without any considerations of administrative convenience, and solely on the ground of their revenue yielding capacity. In 1817, the Peshwa's portion passed into the hands of the East India Company and now forms the districts of British Gujarat. This fact explains the dispersed situation of the State territories. Among the acquisitions of Damajirao there were two, which formed the nuclei of the present Amreli district — Amreli and Mul Dwarka which he conquered, and Damnagar which he received in dowry.

It is unnecessary to refer here to the history of the years following the death of Damajirao. The Gaekwar's alliance with the East India Company began in 1802, and in 1805 and 1817 he entered into treaties with the Company under which, among other things, a subsidiary force was placed in Baroda, and for its payment valuable territories, approximately 4,000 square miles in extent, were assigned. These cessions constitute the second of the historical reasons for the scattered nature of the State territories at present.

The rule of Maharaja Sayajirao II (1819-1847) was marked by frequent controversies with the Government of Bombay, arising out of the East India Company's guarantees to the bankers, who had advanced money to the State, to the disbanded Arab mercenaries and others. During this period, the East India Company assumed the direct management of the tributaries, it being agreed that the tributes due from them should be collected by the East India Company and paid to Baroda. This assumption of management is also responsible for the present state of the map of the State.

Little need be said about the three successors who bridge the period between Maharaja Sayajirao II and Maharaja Sayajirao III. In Maharaja Ganpatrao's reign, 1847-56, infanticide and the sale of children were prohibited, and the lands for the B. B. and C. I. Railway were ceded to the British Government free of cost. Maharaja Khanderao's reign, 1856-70, will be memorable for the service he rendered to the British at the time of the Mutiny and the construction of the first railway line in the State between Miyagam and Dabhoi; for reforms which brought a semblance of regularity in the administration of justice and of land revenue. Whatever improvement had been effected in the administration by these two princes, was within a short period of five years, lost by the deterioration in Maharaja Malharrao's time, 1870-75. He returned to the abuses of

the past, introduced a system similar to farming of districts and imposed irregular and special taxes. He was warned in 1874, but in vain. The next year, he was deposed for gross misgovernment, and Maharani Jamnabai, the widow of Maharaja Khanderao, was invited to adopt a son who might ascend the Gadi, and Sir T. Madhavrao, one of the ablest administrators of those times, was entrusted with the administration. Maharani Jamnabai adopted Gopalrao, a descendant of a brother of Damajirao, who, as Sayajirao III, ascended the Gadi on 27th May 1875.

3. THE GOLDEN PERIOD—The sixty four years that this remarkable man was on the throne, is the golden period in the history of the Baroda State. His achievements were numerous: a scientific system of land revenue, survey and settlement was introduced, great departments of State formed; social laws framed and enacted, compulsory education enforced; important programmes of rural reconstruction and industrial development carried out, the social services of the State extended, a network of railways constructed, the port of Okha developed, and above all, a tradition of just and good Government firmly established. His Highness was assisted by a succession of able Ministers like Sir T. Madhavrao, but the inspiration was always his. Modern Baroda is the great and fitting memorial to Sayajirao.

Maharaja Sayajirao had the great good fortune of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of his reign in January 1936, amid the widespread manifestations of joy and loyalty of his people. To commemorate this unique event, a memorial trust of a crore of rupees was set apart by His Highness from his private funds for the benefit of his people. He defined his purpose in these memorable words: "My ideal is to improve village life—all sides of it. I wish to develop in my people a keen desire for a higher standard of living, 'a will to live better', and a capacity for self-help and self-reliance. I earnestly desire to make village life interesting and farming a career, the rewards of which will satisfy the most enterprising among the villagers. From the income of this (fund), grants will be made for useful schemes, like extensions of ganthans to relieve overcrowding, village water supplies, communications, educative work of all kinds etc. Special preference will be given (i) to poorer areas which probably have been neglected in the past, and (ii) to the needs of the backward communities like the Raniparaj, the Antyajs, the Thakardas, the Rabaris etc." Rules have been framed and a Trust Board, with the Minister as president, has been constituted for the administration of this fund. The notable part played by this Trust in rural development is described in Chapter XII.

The great period of Maharaja Sayajirao closed with his death on the 6th of February 1939. He was succeeded by his grandson, His Highness the Maharaja Pratapsinh Gackwar, whose reign is already

famous for the permanent reduction in land revenue to the extent of over twenty per cent, the constitutional reforms and the Sayajirao III Memorial Trust of a crore of rupees, the Maharani Shanta Devi Trust fund for the medical relief of women and children, and the extension of the social services of the State.

The first three of these measures, the permanent reduction in land revenue, the constitutional reforms and the Memorial Trust were announced by His Highness, at the time of his accession, in his message to his people on the 20th February 1939. He said:

“During my ten years’ association with the government of the State, I also have come to realise that the agriculturist is the backbone of my State and to take the keenest interest in his economic condition and general well-being. As a practical manifestation of my sympathy and affection, I now direct that the reduced assessment (of land revenue) announced by my revered predecessor be substituted for the existing settlement rates and that it shall be varied only in the course of revisions of settlements.

It is my fervent hope that as the outcome of these concessions, which meet the equities of the case to the fullest extent, the agriculturist will be encouraged in a life of prudence and thrift and will earnestly seek a higher standard of life and level of prosperity.”

The same solicitude for the welfare of his people is seen in the creation of the Sayajirao Memorial Trust. “The long reign of Sir Sayajirao III constitutes the Golden Age of Baroda’s history; and in order that his memory may live for ever and his life be a shining inspiration, it is the universal desire, that there should be a memorial in every way worthy of his greatness.

I have, therefore, decided to set apart from my private funds, the sum of one crore of rupees to perpetuate the memory of the great man whom we have lost. It is my desire that all classes and communities in the State, without exception, should receive the benefit of this Trust.

Thus will generations to come be reminded of a Ruler, who dedicated his life to his people, and who chose service as the highest ideal, in precept and in practice.” The schemes under this Trust are described in Chapter XII.

In the same message, His Highness also announced his consent to the recommendations of the committee appointed, in 1938, to consider constitutional advance. He said “The new constitution will emphasise once more the complete identity of interest between the Ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the population; and it is my earnest hope, that it will advance the material and moral

condition of my people including those on whom age-old customs have imposed disabilities."

4. **ATTACHED AREA** — By a communique issued on the 16th April 1943, H. E. the Crown Representative directed the attachment to the Baroda State of 250 States, talukas and estates in Kathiawar, Sabarkantha and Rewakantha. Of these 60 are semi-jurisdictional; the rest are non-jurisdictional grouped under 14 thanas. The terms of attachment of the different classes of units have been prescribed in instruments of attachment issued to them. The area of these units is approximately 5,400 square miles and their population about 5,20,000. The assumption of charge of these areas took place in June and July. On the 27th July His Highness the Maharaja sent a message to the Chiefs, Talukdars, Bhagdars and the people of these areas in which he announced

- (i) the setting apart of an annual grant of Rs. 50,000 out of the income of the Shri Sayaji Rao Diamond Jubilee Trust for rural reconstruction in the attached areas;
- (ii) the creation of a new trust associated with his own name, yielding an annual income of Rs. 50,000 to supplement the grant under (i) and
- (iii) the setting apart of a sum of Rs. 10,000 every year for grants for education to the sons, etc., of Chiefs and Talukdars.

The text of the message is given in appendix A.

In the Budget Session of the Dhara Sabha held on 19th July 1943, several members tabled resolutions conveying the good wishes of the Dhara Sabha to the Talukdars, Chiefs and the people of the areas. The Minister, on behalf of the Government, wholeheartedly associated himself with these sentiments and assured the units attached to the State that no efforts would be wanting on the part of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb and of his Government to co-operate in the realization of the object underlying the new relationship now created, namely, "the firm establishment of conditions in which the areas concerned will secure and enjoy full opportunity for progress and development".

The System of Government

5. **THE RULER** — The Ruler is the source of all authority and power in the State. He has delegated wide powers to the Executive Council, the Legislative Assembly and the Judiciary, reserving to himself important questions involving policy. The revenues of the State are regarded as public funds, and the Privy Purse or Khangi which includes all expenditure on the Palace is fixed.

6. **GOVERNMENT OF BARODA ACT** — The Government of Baroda Act, 1940, defines the constitution, the functions and powers of the Executive Council, the Legislature and the Judiciary.

7. **EXECUTIVE** — The Executive Council consists of the Chief Minister called Dewan, and three Naib Dewans, one of whom is a non-official gentleman, with a record of public service, appointed from among the members of the Dhara Sabha. All members are responsible to the Maharaja. The Council has been vested with wide powers of administration. Each member is in charge of a number of departments in respect of which he exercises clearly defined administrative powers. The Minister and his colleagues are assisted by a Secretariat, the Huzur Central Office, organised on the system prevailing in British India. The entire administration is carried on through well organised departments. These departments address their proposals, when necessary, to the Government, which are submitted by the Central Office to the Member in charge and the Council. The relations with the British Government and Indian States are conducted by the Minister personally through the Political Office.

8. **LEGISLATURE** — The Dhara Sabha or the Legislative Council was reconstituted in 1940 under the Government of Baroda Act of 1940. It now consists of sixty members, of whom twenty seven are elected by territorial constituencies on a wide franchise. Every person who holds land assessed at not less than Rs. 30, or pays income tax, or owns immovable property worth Rs. 1,000 or more, or has passed the matriculation or an equivalent examination, is entitled to vote and to stand as a candidate. The number of persons on the voters' list for the general constituencies at the election of 1940 was 239,336 or about 8.5 per cent of the population of the State. Besides these, ten members represent industry, commerce, labour and the co-operative movement as special interests. The other twenty three members of the Dhara Sabha consist of six officials and seventeen non-official gentlemen, nominated to represent minorities etc. The Dewan is the President. There is also a deputy president, who, after the first three years, will be elected by the Dhara Sabha. Three parliamentary secretaries are appointed to assist the members of the Executive Council in their work relating to the Dhara Sabha, and a Dhara Sabha Secretariat, directly under the President, has been formed.

The Dhara Sabha has the power to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss and vote on the budget. The members may also ask questions and move resolutions on matters of public interest, subject to certain limitations. All legislation requires the assent of the Maharaja. Measures affecting the Army, the Privy Purse, treaties or relations with the Paramount Power or other States, the credit of the State, or the provisions of the Government of Baroda Act are excluded from its cognisance. Similarly, expenditure charged to the revenues of the

State is not submitted to the vote of the House. There are certain matters which require the previous sanction of the Maharaja, before measures relating to them can be introduced. The Dewan has power of certification. He may certify a measure before the House as affecting the tranquility of the State, in which case the measure is dropped, or he may certify that a Bill or amendment rejected by the assembly is an emergent measure, and submit it to the Maharaja to enact it as law.

9. THE JUDICIARY — The judiciary is separate from, and independent of, the Legislature and the Executive. The judges of the High Court hold office till the age of retirement, and may only be removed by His Highness on the ground of misbehaviour or infirmity of body and mind. Their salaries are also not subject to the vote of the Dhara Sabha. Under the present Act, the position, status and functions of the Huzur Nyaya Sabha and the Varisht Court have been stabilised and put on to a statutory basis.

10. THE POLICY — The policy of His Highness the Maharaja has been set out clearly — it is the close association of the people with the Government. To give effect to this policy, he has promulgated the new constitution which, in His Highness' memorable words, "will emphasise once more the complete identity of interest between the Ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the people." Baroda has developed for many decades on lines of its own and evolved an individuality of which it is justly proud. In constitutional matters too, it has developed forms and institutions, which, while giving full effect to the principle of close association, are suited to her conditions and serve her special needs. In the Dhara Sabha no attempt has been made to form blocks. Members always formed and expressed views, independently on the merits of individual issues. These valuable features are sought to be preserved, as far as possible in the present constitution.

Administrative System

11. REVENUE DEPARTMENT — Under the old farming system, the revenue farmers were not only collectors of revenue, but exercised civil and criminal jurisdiction as well. When this system gave place to direct settlement of land revenue with the ryot, it became necessary to create revenue, judicial and police services. The present hierarchy, with clearly defined powers of each grade, dates from that time.

The revenue administration of the State is modelled on the system prevailing in the Ryotwari provinces of British India. In one important principle, however, it departs from the policy of the British Government. There has been almost complete separation of the executive and the judiciary since 1907-08

The revenue administration consists of a gradation of officers, with the Sar Suba at the head. He deals with Land Revenue, Barkhali, Giras, Boundary and Railway demarcation, Registration and Stamps, Guardians and Wards, Estates under Government management, Compensation, Charitable Institutions, Income-tax, Customs, Excise and Opium and Local Self-Government. Under the Sar Suba, there is a Suba or a Collector, at the head of each of the five districts of the State.

The Suba, as District Magistrate, is primarily responsible for the maintenance of law and order and for the work of the police. As Collector, he is the official head of his district, and it is his duty to see that the land revenue, income-tax and other revenues are duly collected. The maintenance of land records by village officials, the state of the crops, the economic condition of the people and the grant of remission of land revenue, when necessary, demand his attention.

A district consists of eight to ten mahals or talukas, each in charge of a vahivatdar—smaller talukas called peta-mahals are placed under mahalkaris. The vahivatdar is the chief revenue officer in the taluka. He exercises second class magisterial powers for the purpose of maintaining peace and order. There are thirty three talukas in the State.

Over a group of three to four talukas there is a naib suba, primarily a supervising and inspecting officer. There are 11 subdivisions. There are also personal naib subas stationed at district headquarters, who help the Subas in general supervision, and administer with Suba's powers Stamp and Registration, Court of Wards, Compensation, Estates under Government management, and Devasthan.

The lowest unit for administrative purposes is the village. In each village, there is a headman, patel, an accountant, talati, and a staff of village servants. The patel is responsible for the collection of revenue, and its remittance to the taluka treasury. He must maintain law and order in his village, and must report the occurrence of crimes to the higher authorities. He is the president of the village panchayat. The talati is responsible for the maintenance and custody of the accounts and land records. During the cultivation season he records the crops raised in each field, the area in which it is raised and an estimate of their outturn.

12. JUDICIARY — The Varisht (High) Court is the supreme tribunal in the State, subject to an appeal to the Maharaja, in cases similar to those in which appeals are permitted in British India to the Privy Council. In the disposal of these appeals, the Maharaja is advised by the Nyaya Sabha, which corresponds to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The Nyaya Sabha consists of the Legal Remembrancer and two members, including a judge of the High Court,

The Varisht Court does not exercise original civil or criminal jurisdiction, but only appellate and revisional powers. It, however, possesses extraordinary powers to try original cases both civil and criminal, and it exercises a general superintendence and control over the whole administration of justice. The judges of the High Court are appointed by the Maharaja from among the district judges or leading members of the bar.

Under the High Court there are five district courts, which try civil suits of any limit, small causes suits upto Rs. 1,000, and sit as sessions court for criminal cases. Assisting these, are assistant judges' courts, with the same civil jurisdiction (small causes suits upto Rs. 500 only) as district courts, but with limited powers in criminal cases. In talukas, there are munsiffs' courts. They hear civil suits upto Rs. 10,000, small causes suits upto Rs. 200 (Rs. 500 when sitting in bench) and enjoy first class magisterial powers. The judicial cadre consists of three High Court judges, five district judges and magistrates, five assistant district judges, and thirty nine munsiffs.

13. POLICE — Formerly, magisterial and police functions were exercised by the same officers; nor was there any clear demarcation between the army and the police. With the reforms of Sir T. Madhavrao, magisterial and police functions became separated, and a police service independent of the army was created. At present, the Force consists of two distinct bodies — the stipendiary and the village police. The former is under the control of the Police Commissioner, and the latter, though under the Revenue department, is responsible to him for their police duties.

The stipendiary police consists of five units with 5,143 officers and men. The armed forces, which consist of about two thirds of the stipendiary police, guard jails and treasuries, escort prisoners etc. A special armed reserved force is maintained in each district for emergencies.

Besides this, there is the mounted police, which, in each district, patrol the boundaries, guard dangerous points, pursue dacoits and form an escort during His Highness' tours; the city police, which is in charge of registration of vehicles in Baroda City, and controls traffic; the railway police on the State Railways in the Baroda and Mehsana districts; and the water police whose duty is to prevent and detect crime on the sea, and smuggling in Kodinar and Okhamandal.

The Police organisation is a graded hierarchy of the jamadar, with a few constables under him in charge of a chowky, the outpost with its naib fujdar, the police station under fujdar, the circle under sar fujdar and the police naib suba in charge of the district.

Each officer is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in his jurisdiction. The head of the department is the Commissioner of Police.

14. ARMY — The Baroda Army consists of regular and irregular troops. The maximum strength of the former is 3,924 (effectives)—cavalry 819, infantry 3,040, band 61, and 4 staff officers.

15. FINANCE — Till 1875, the finances of the State rested on the twin system of revenue farming and the potdari. The State did not collect its revenues, but auctioned the right of collection to the highest bidder; nor did it maintain a treasury of its own, but drew upon accredited bankers for such sums as it required, and for repayment, granted them letters of credit on some farmer of revenue. On these transactions the State paid a heavy rate of interest and a commission. Sometimes the Maharajas themselves were bankers to the State.

One of the earliest reforms of Sir T. Madhavrao was to abolish the potdari system and establish an Accounts department. The Accounts department, under the Accountant General, has now four sections: Finance, Investment, Accounts, and Audit. It prepares the budget statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure for the coming year, keeps the Government informed of the chief causes of fluctuations, and with the help of the Budget Committee, advises Government on all questions affecting the finances of the State; submits to Government a reappropriation report, explaining the reasons of the variations. It attends to the investment of surplus funds, and in this work it is advised by an Investment Committee and financial experts. It tabulates receipts and expenditure under prescribed heads, and compiles monthly and annual statements of accounts. It audits accounts of all Government offices, in Baroda City on pre-audit and elsewhere on post-audit system.

16. STATE RESERVES — In 1938-39, the Government adopted two important measures as a result of the examination of the finances of the State, following the reduction in the land revenue of Rs. 23·65 lakhs, and the concession of Rs. 3·04 lakhs in favour of prant panchayats made that year.

- (i) *The constitution of a State Reserve Fund* : Out of the liquid assets of the State, Rs. 350 lakhs were set apart to form a reserve. This amount will be utilised for schemes of remunerative capital expenditure.
- (ii) *The formation of a Land Revenue equalisation fund* : As land revenue forms the main source of income of the State, seasonal vicissitudes had serious repercussions on the budget estimates. To avoid such dislocations, this fund has been created, taking normal realisations

from land revenue at Rs. 95 lakhs. If the actual realisations exceed this standard, the excess is added to the fund; if the receipts fall short, the deficit is made good by drawing upon it. To start with, the fund was credited with Rs. 50 lakhs from the savings of the State. Fluctuations under land revenue thus cannot affect the activities of the development departments, or restrict the range of social services rendered by the State.

17. **AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT**—The Agricultural department was founded in 1909, in sympathy with the general movement in the country, following the great famines of 1899–1901, to improve the methods of agriculture. Till recently, however, the policy towards agricultural development, was to wait and watch the results of scientific work obtained at the British institutions, and particularly at those located in the immediate neighbourhood of the State, and to try to demonstrate improvements of proved value to the people. The agricultural department developed on these lines, however, did not prove as useful as was expected. In 1936, therefore, a policy was adopted of vigorous technical development, and an equally vigorous propaganda to carry the knowledge of improved agriculture to every agriculturist of the State. A technical expert of great experience was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture, and the department expanded to meet the new needs. A measure of the development of the department is the increase in its expenditure from Rs. 1·8 lakhs in 1934–35 to Rs. 7·86 lakhs in the year under report.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into the northern and southern circles, each under a deputy director. The different sections: agricultural chemistry, engineering, marketing, horticulture and animal husbandry and veterinary relief are also in charge of qualified officers.

18. **CO-OPERATION**—The Co-operative Credit Societies Act was passed in the State in 1905, a year after the enactment of a similar nature in British India. This Act provided for the organisation of credit societies only. It was amended in 1912, to permit the organisation of non-credit societies as well. The number of societies in the State is now 1,303, and it has been calculated that 12 per cent of the population is directly affected by the movement. The Registrar of co-operative societies is assisted by two assistant registrars and 22 auditors.

19. **COMMERCE**—The Commerce department deals with commerce and is in charge of the activities connected with the Ports of the State. The customs agreement of 1936 with the Government of India set at rest a long pending dispute in regard to the customs' rights of the State.

20. **INDUSTRIES**—The department of industries is maintained to implement the Government's policy of active assistance in starting new, or developing existing industries. This assistance extends in several directions. The department takes a share in industrial research work; it provides technical assistance to industrialists; it conducts surveys, and supplies information to the public; it examines applications for special concessions and grants of loans to industries, or for assistance by participation in the share capital of pioneer industries, or for concessions, such as acquisition of land, remission of octroi duty, supply of cheap power and water.

In the administration of the Boiler Act and the Factories Act, the Director of Industries is assisted by a Boiler Inspector and a Labour Officer.

For the revival and development of cottage industries, the Government maintain a central institute, the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute at Baroda, and a large number of special training classes in villages, and give grant-in-aid to private institutions working towards this object.

21. **STATISTICS**—The Statistics department was constituted in 1935. It compiles statistics useful to industrial and commercial classes and the State. It is also in charge of the administration of the Companies Act, the Insurance Act and the Insurance of State servants.

22. **FORESTS**—The total area of forests in the State is 712 square miles. The area is divided into nine ranges for administration. Of these, five are in the Navsari district and one in each of the other districts. The work of conservation and exploitation is controlled by a Conservator of Forests and two assistants.

23. **FISHERIES** — The Fisheries department was created in 1937. The Director is assisted by an assistant director and a small technical staff. The work mainly consists of improving the food supply of the people, by developing both the marine and fresh water fisheries of the State, the introduction of new fishery industries, and the improvement of the material and moral condition of the fishing community.

24. **EDUCATION** — The history of education in the State begins in 1871, when for the first time two Gujarati and two Marathi schools were opened by the Government. Four years later, the Vernacular Education department was formed under the Vidyadhikari. The progress was at first slow, and when Sayajirao III assumed full powers in 1881, there were no more than 180 primary schools with 7,465 pupils. Under his inspiration, however, education developed rapidly.

In 1893, compulsory primary education was introduced as an experimental measure in the Amreli district, and rapidly extended, till in 1906 it was made applicable to the whole State. Education is now free and compulsory between the ages of 7 and 12, and all primary education upto class V is free.

The Education department controls and supervises the entire primary education in the State. In this the Vidyadhikari, Commissioner of Education, is assisted by an assistant commissioner, and six divisional inspectors, each in charge of a division, and two inspectresses of girls' schools. Under these district inspectors there are 31 deputy inspectors, and special deputy inspectors for Urdu, Antyaj and Raniparaj schools. Compulsion is enforced by fines imposed by head masters and is based on the list of children of school going age, drawn up in each village by the patel and the school master. The fines do not form revenues of the State, but are credited to a separate fund, which is utilised for constructing school buildings and awarding scholarships.

Secondary, university and technical education are also under the Commissioner of Education, as also all Government educational institutions such as the museum, the libraries, the Oriental Institute and the music and Sanskrit schools. There are, however, directors or curators in charge of each of these sections to assist him.

There are 2,261 Government primary schools with 6,452 teachers and 48 Government secondary schools with 462 teachers. There is a special inspector for secondary schools.

25. LIBRARY MOVEMENT — Perhaps the most important development in education in recent years, is the establishment of a network of village libraries throughout the State. The genesis of the district library movement lies in the fact, realised after some years of experience of compulsory education, that a boy or a girl who has passed the fifth standard Gujarati, lapses into illiteracy within a few years, unless opportunities are provided to him or her to continue reading. The Government, therefore, adopted a policy of providing with a library every village where there is a school, the help given by the Government and the district boards being equal to the contribution raised by the village; and for annual expenses, the Government gives a grant equal to the contribution raised by the library. With this object mofussil libraries are grouped under three classes: district libraries receive upto Rs. 700; town libraries upto Rs. 300; and village libraries upto Rs. 100. Women's libraries and children's receive grant on the basis of village libraries and reading rooms upto Rs. 50. Under this policy, the number of district libraries rose from 697 in 1930 to 1,504 in 1943. Besides this, there is the travelling libraries' section which serves about 375 centres. The population

served by the libraries now forms 100 per cent of the town population, and 78·27 per cent of the village, and 82·6 per cent of the population of the State as a whole.

26. **MEDICAL DEPARTMENT** — The Medical department was organised in 1876, when a few medical graduates were appointed. Between 1881 and 1919, an extensive programme to provide all district towns with hospitals, and all taluka towns with dispensaries was carried out. The same period saw the establishment of two great hospitals in the City : The Countess of Dufferin Hospital in 1886, and the State General Hospital in 1907. In 1919, a programme was adopted for opening dispensaries in rural areas, so that medical help would be available within five miles of every village. The programme has been completed and 44 new dispensaries established. These dispensaries are in charge of L. C. P. S. sub-assistant surgeons and the others in that of medical graduates. There are now 121 medical institutions—one for 67 square miles or 23,595 of the population, 138 sub-assistant surgeons, 168 nurses and midwives, and 107 compounders.

The Maharani Shanta Devi Trust Fund : A separate trust, associated with the name of Her Highness the Maharani, has been created, which will extend the facilities now available for medical aid for women and children. The Government have transferred to the Trust Rs. 5 lakhs, representing the amount accumulated from the fines levied under the Child Marriage Act, and will contribute every year about Rs. 50,000, of which about Rs. 40,000 will be from the yearly income of such fines, and Rs. 10,000 from the Sayajirao III Memorial Fund. The Trust has so far sanctioned seventeen medical institutions for women besides a separate children's hospital attached to the general hospital in the Baroda City.

27. **SANITARY DEPARTMENT** — Sanitation forms the principal function of municipalities in towns and village panchayats. The municipalities are assisted by sanitary committees, consisting of municipal members and others. The village panchayats are guided by district sanitary inspectors. The Sanitary Commissioner exercises a general supervision, in which he is assisted by two assistant commissioners. He is also in charge of the work connected with vital statistics.

Vaccination is now compulsory in the Baroda State, and revaccination at the age of 8 in Baroda City and district, in Okhamandal and the Mehsana district.

28. **PUBLIC WORKS** — The Public Works department, formerly known as Imarat Karkhana, was constituted in 1877, and an ambitious programme of public buildings, irrigation and gardens was undertaken. In 1885, a separate branch for the development of irrigation works was created and during the next thirty five years, old irrigation tanks

were renovated and no less than 23 new ones constructed at the cost of Rs. 52 lakhs. They were designed to supply water to over 100,000 bighas. These have, however, not been altogether successful.

The department is organised in five sections : civil, architecture, mechanical and boring, irrigation and gardens, each under a qualified officer, with the Chief Engineer at the head. For the civil branch, the Chief Engineer is assisted by a superintending engineer. The State is divided into the City, and four divisions, each in charge of an executive engineer, Okhamandal being under the Harbour Board for public works purposes. The executive engineers control the district staff, consisting of 26 sub-divisional officers. These are employed on irrigation and other public works.

29. **RAILWAYS** — Baroda was among the earliest of the States to initiate a regular system of railways. The first line was opened in 1869 between Miyagam and Dabhoi. Since then a network of railways has been constructed in the State, and to-day Baroda has a total mileage of 795 miles, of which 21.42 miles are broad-gauge, 345.64 miles metre-gauge and 428.11 miles narrow-gauge, the total capital invested being Rs. 5.84 crores.

30. **ELECTRICITY** — The department has two sections : electricity proper, and telephones. The principal undertaking of the department is the City electric supply. Besides this, there are electric supply concerns at Petlad, Okha and Gandevi, and the water lifting stations at Manekpur and Umra. The telephone section controls the telephone systems of the Baroda City, Navsari, Billimora, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol and Mehsana.

31. **STATIONERY AND PRINTING** — The supply of stationery to all Government offices is controlled by the Manager, State Press. The printing work for Government is done at the Government Press established in 1924.

Local Self-Government

32. **VILLAGE PANCHAYATS** — The new system of administration of land revenue, justice and police deprived the village organisations of much of their power and usefulness. But Baroda can pride itself on the fact, that from the beginning steps were taken to preserve the self-government of the village. Panchayats were constituted in all villages, and entrusted with powers and duties, which they had enjoyed by custom, and funds provided for them.

Since then, from time to time the panchayats have been reorganised, their constitution made more liberal, and their resources and powers extended,

To-day, every village with a population of more than 500 has its own panchayat; smaller villages are grouped together, and a common panchayat organised for them. Of the 2,894 villages, 1,648 have panchayats, and 879 villages are served by 384 group panchayats. Two thirds of the members are elected under a very wide franchise. The Patel is the ex-officio president, but the panchayats appoint their own secretaries and treasurers. They enjoy power of supervision over village affairs and institutions, and are in charge of village sanitation, water supply and drainage. They are entrusted with revenue functions, such as ordinary cases of mutations of lands, giving permission to build, and a few of them have been given power to try civil and criminal cases. A proportion of the local cess, contributions by prant panchayats, and certain items of Government revenue, such as sale proceeds of grass, trees etc., form their main sources of income. The average income of the panchayats is Rs. 168 per year.

33. DISTRICT BOARDS — In 1940, the system of representative institutions was extended to districts, and prant panchayats or district boards constituted. The prant panchayats now consist of a majority of members elected on a broad franchise. They have been entrusted with the construction of roads, wells, cattle troughs, dharmashalas and schools, and with sanitation and public health. Since 1939, they elect their presidents. They have their own engineering staff. Formerly, they were entrusted with full control over primary schools, but they were not found suitable agency for enforcing compulsion, and the control was resumed. They, however, continued to pay a third of the local cess towards education till 1939, when to strengthen their resources and enable them to undertake work of importance, they were relieved of this (Rs. 2.75 lakhs) as well as their contribution of Rs. 0.29 lakhs towards veterinary services. This added Rs. 3.04 lakhs to their resources. The total income of five prant panchayats is about Rs. 8.57 lakhs.

34. THE BARODA MUNICIPALITY — Previous to the Municipal Act of 1892, there were no self-governing institutions, for the management of municipal affairs in towns. In that year, the principle of election was introduced in the Baroda Municipality. Its present constitution is based on the Act of 1905 which separated the executive and the deliberative functions, conferred considerable financial powers, and increased the elected members from half to two thirds. Since then its powers, responsibilities and privileges have been extended, and it now elects its own president. Except for such matters as taxation, making rules and bye-laws, the municipality enjoys independent powers. Its income, including a Government grant of Rs. 1.25 lakhs, is about Rs. 11.97 lakhs.

35. DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES — In other towns, there was no municipal government in any real sense, prior to the Municipal Act of 1905, which was based on the Bombay Municipal Act III of 1901.

Under this Act, municipalities are classed "A" and "B" according to their size, importance and fitness for self-government. The proportion of elected members differs slightly in these two and the presidents in both cases were, till recently, Government officials. Since 1939, however, all the "A" and some of "B" class municipalities, have been allowed to elect their presidents. In the early days, the sole source of income of these bodies was Government grants, but these have been largely discontinued, and municipalities are empowered to levy house tax, octroi and such other duties. There are eleven "A" class and thirty "B" class municipalities. The total income of "A" class municipalities is about Rs. 8.35 lakhs and of "B" class about Rs. 3.73 lakhs.

The system of land revenue

36. SETTLEMENT OF RYOTWARI LANDS — In the earlier days, districts were annually farmed out to the highest bidders, and the cultivator enjoyed neither security of tenure nor of assessment. Sayajirao III's most memorable reform was the settlement of the lands on a just and equitable basis. In this, he followed the Bombay system and the principles formulated in the Joint Report of 1847.

37. OCCUPANCY RIGHTS — In Baroda territories, as in those comprising the Province of Bombay the common tenure was the ryotwari tenure, under which the occupant of land deals directly with the Government, and is responsible for the payment of revenues, assessed only on his own holding. This tenure was accepted as the basis of the new system. The rights, which the occupant enjoys over his occupancy, were stated, and are now defined in the Baroda Land Revenue Code. The occupancy can be inherited, sold, burdened with debt, relinquished or otherwise alienated. In certain parts of the State, however, laws have been passed in the interest of the backward classes, restricting the right of alienation. These are described in the chapter on Social and Economic Legislation.

38. SURVEY — To define precisely the lands in respect of which these rights are given, an accurate survey is necessary. The arable land, whether cultivated or not, is therefore, split up into fields or survey numbers, the "field" being an artificial unit of such a size as would make for flexibility of transfer of land and permit the ryot to contract or enlarge his holding according to his resources. The maximum size is ordinarily eight bighas in dry and three in wet land. The fields are measured with chain and cross staff and their boundaries fixed by official boundary marks. The record of the survey is preserved and maintained by an elaborate system of maps and measurements. In the surveys that were carried out, it was necessary to split up holdings larger than the standard size, and combine holdings of less than a minimum area. Subordinate shares within a survey number were measured, assessed and demarcated as pot-numbers,

39. SETTLEMENT — The settlement of the revenue is made taluka by taluka, at long intervals of 15–30 years, by officers appointed specially for the purpose, and once made, remains unchanged for the period for which the guarantee has been given. The revenue officer has normally nothing more to do than administer it.

The conditions at the time of the Original Settlements did not justify settlements for a period longer than fifteen years. There was much waste land, rents were low, cultivation was fluctuating, and there was likelihood of a rapid development of resources owing to the construction of roads and railways, an increase in population, a rise in prices and the establishment of peace and order in the State. These considerations, however, did not prevail to the same extent at the time of the Revision Settlements which, therefore, were invariably made for thirty years.

The settlement is based on the principle that “land should be assessed in accordance with its capabilities.” Such a settlement involves two distinct processes :—

- (i) *The determination of the aggregate amount of assessment for a taluka :* The main considerations, which guide the Settlement officer in determining whether the existing assessment of a taluka is suitable or requires to be modified, are its rainfall, the state of communications and markets, the class of cultivation and the state of husbandry, the revenue history including statistics of demand, collection, remissions, arrears and coercive measures, and the expansion or contraction in the area occupied as indicating the pressure of assessment. The statistics of rents, sales and mortgages, as indicating the proportion of assessment to the profit of agriculture, and the movement of prices, indicate the extent to which the aggregate may be modified.
- (ii) *Distribution of the aggregate :* The aggregate having been determined, the next operation consists of apportioning the aggregate to the various fields or survey numbers, according to their relative values. The circumstances affecting the values of fields within the same village are three: their natural productive capabilities, irrigation facilities and position with respect to the village. Lands are, accordingly, divided into classes on lines familiar to the cultivator—dry crop and irrigated—and each class further classified according to factors that affect their natural productivity: depth, texture and quality of the soil, irrigation facilities etc. Fields are examined and their relative value in respect to these factors is expressed in terms of anna valuation, or frac-

tional shares calculated in sixteenths. Irrigation facilities, such as wells, in the earlier settlements were taxed by additional assessment on the fields they served. But this, as it amounted to a tax on improvements, was against Government's policy of taxing only the natural capabilities of the soil, and the system lent itself to easy evasion. In later settlements, therefore, the system of subsoil rate was adopted. Water facility is considered as one of the fertilizing elements of the soil, and included in the soil classification, according to the depth and quality of the subsoil water. A light burden is thus imposed on all who enjoy land possessing irrigation facilities, instead of a heavy rate on those only, who made their use. The system has relieved the cultivator of all apprehension regarding assessment of well improvements, and has provided an impetus to the construction of wells.

The calculation of the assessment each survey number should bear, according to its capacity as expressed by classification, is a purely arithmetical process. But in doing so, the relative situation of the villages of the taluka in respect of climate, communications and markets and such other enduring factors, is considered. The taluka is divided into groups of villages and the aggregate apportioned between group and group in relation to these advantages and disadvantages.

These were the principles on which the Original Settlements of the talukas of the State were made between 1880 and 1901, mostly by two officers of the Bombay Government, Mr. Elliot and Mr. Seddon.

40. **REVISION SETTLEMENTS** — Periodical revisions, though based on the same principles, raises the fundamental question with regard to taxation of improvements. The policy of the Baroda Government is defined in the Land Revenue Code and the Revision Settlement Rules. These enactments secure to the cultivator in perpetuity, the whole of the profit arising from improvements in his land carried out at his own cost, such as wells and tanks; and he is secured against an increase in assessment, on account of improvement in the soil or conversion of dry land into kyari, by provisions in the Revision Settlement Rules, under which lands are not to be reclassified, except when there has been a change of a permanent nature in the physical features of the soil over a fairly large area. Enhancements at settlements are fixed solely on the basis of a general rise in prices of standard crops, and the policy is to see that assessments are raised only moderately — the agriculturist being allowed a proportion of the benefit due to increase in prices.

41. **SUSPENSION AND REMISSION** — In a fixed cash settlement, the Government revenue represents the sum that may fairly be demanded on an average of seasons, and it is assessed in the belief, that cultivators will save from the surplus of good years to meet the deficit in bad. It is, however, difficult to make allowances for failure of crops in framing the assessment rates; nor have the agriculturists as a rule learnt to regard good harvests, as a means of insurance against bad years. The revenue system of the State has, therefore, recognised the necessity of special arrangements for relaxation in realisation of the revenue demand, where there is serious failure of crops, and with a view to ascertain the correct yield in any individual season, a procedure has been laid down whereby in any year, the yield in the different crops is ascertained as annis, proportioned to the normal yield in the particular crop in the tract concerned.

The Settlement of Barkhali (alienated) lands

42. **ORIGIN OF BARKHALI LANDS** — In the times of trouble preceding the establishment of ordered government in the State, the right of alienating lands was assumed by farmers of revenue and executive officers of all grades even down to patels. Repeated efforts were made by the Government to prevent these alienations but to no purpose. By 1875, the extent of alienated lands in the State was considerable. The settlement of these lands was organised in 1889, and rules, which are still in force, were formulated. Inquiry into individual cases was not made, the Government preferring, as in Bombay, a summary settlement according to certain principles. All lands acquired before 1826, the year in which Sayajirao II had issued orders forbidding alienations, were charged a quit rent of 2 annas, and others of 4 annas and where title to land was recognised, sanads were given guaranteeing succession to direct and collateral heirs and recognising adoption.

43. **KINDS OF BARKHALI LANDS** — The Barkhali lands, to which this settlement referred, consist of four kinds of inams: personal, devasthan, hereditary service and political.

- (a) *Personal* : These inams were given as gifts to persons out of favour or for past service. Such, for instance, are jat dharma-daya lands bestowed on Brahmins, Bhattas, Charans, etc.; or the Wazeefa lands granted by Muslim Governments to pious persons or for past services. Such grants were continued unconditionally.
- (b) *Devasthan lands* : Lands alienated for the maintenance of temples, mosques and such other religious or charitable institutions of a permanent character are devasthan Inams. These were continued permanently free of assessment, except in cases where the temples or gods had ceased to exist.

- (c) *Service inams* : There are three distinct classes of service inams :
- (i) Dharmadaya Chakariat were lands given for worship or as payment for services at religious or charitable institutions. As these inams were given to individuals, the reason for a total or a permanent exemption from revenue did not apply. Therefore, the inams were continued only in the family to which they had been given and permanent alienation was prohibited.
 - (ii) Vatans were grants for performance of civil duties. These inamdars were deeply in debt and had mortgaged their property, and all except Muzumdars and a few Desais, had long ceased themselves to render any service, but sent low paid clerks instead. Measures were adopted to rehabilitate them. A settlement of their remuneration on a fair, intelligible and stable basis was made, their service and its nature defined, and rules framed for regulating succession. A similar settlement of inami villages was also made.
 - (iii) Chakariat lands were given for village service and are, strictly speaking, not alienated lands. They are assigned in lieu of cash payments. When the settlement was undertaken, some of the larger villages had no Government assistance towards guarding the field produce, and others towards conservancy, and so forth. Most of the village servants had mortgaged or sold their lands. So, the two main points of settlement were: (a) an equal distribution of village services among all towns and villages according to population, revenue, and geographical position, and (b) a choice for all village servants to accept their remuneration in cash or in shape of freedom from assessment on such lands as they held. Most preferred cash remuneration as they had sold or mortgaged their lands. At the same time, the services of darjis, dhobis, mochis, malis and priests were dispensed with, and their lands resumed.
- (d) *Political inams* : These were given for political considerations.

44. ADANIA — Besides these, there was an extensive alienation of land in the form of mortgage tenure—Adania. The patels, in order to raise funds to meet their liabilities, sold (vechania) or mortgaged (gharania) Government lands for a trifling sum, guaranteeing the total exemption from assessment. The vast extent of such lands in the Mehsana and Baroda districts made a solution of the problem difficult.

In their settlement the Government followed a liberal policy: it determined to redeem what it had the right to resume. In Kadi the lands were resumed for a consideration which varied according as the alienation dated before or after 1826. In the Baroda district there was much more vechania land than gharania. The Government continued indefinitely, on payment of fixed charges, all such lands acquired before 1826; and those acquired after 1826 were continued for two lives.

45. **NON-RYOTWARI TENURES** — Though Ryotwari is the common tenure in the State, two other forms, corresponding to village and zamindari tenures, are also found.

- (i) *The Narvadari and Bhagdari tenures* : Both these involve a joint responsibility for the payment of the Government revenues. The bhagdari tenure, however, differs from the narvadari in that in the former, each field is separately assessed and the village pays the sum of the field assessments, while in narvadari, the revenue is fixed in the lump on the village. But in neither case does the contribution of the sharers to the revenue bear any relation to the land they hold at present. They continue to bear the same share of the total revenue as originally. The persons cultivating the lands of these villages are tenants, not of government but of the bhagdars. The customary tenants, however, cannot be ejected so long as they pay the customary rental. The Government seldom interfere between the bhagdars and the tenants.
- (ii) *Ankadabandi and Ekankadi* : In Ankadabandi villages a lump sum is assessed on the whole village and recovered from the headman of the village or the whole body of proprietors. In Ekankadi villages the Government demand is permanently settled. The Government did not interfere in the internal fiscal management of the villages till recently. In 1934, however, Government found it necessary to enact the Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act. This measure was intended for the protection of tenants, and defined who shall be 'permanent' tenants, and who 'occupancy' tenants not liable to eviction so long as they paid the rents and did not commit acts of 'waste'.

Social and economic structure of the State

46. **OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION** — The area of the State is 8,176 square miles, the population 2,855,000. The density of population varies from district to district. It is 418 to the square mile in the Baroda district, 383 in Mehsana, 257 in Navsari, 193 in Amreli and 152 in Okhamandal. The average for the whole State is 349 to the square mile,

The distribution of population between urban and rural is in the ratio of 1:4. The rural population lives in 2,894 villages of which 1,401 have a population of less than 500. There is a marked tendency to migrate from small congested villages to the towns, a tendency which is evident from the increase in the number of 'towns' from 50 in 1931 to 64 in 1941. Many of these towns are mere distributing centres, and the increase in the number does not signify corresponding industrial progress. Indeed, the predominance of agriculture as a means of livelihood has as yet been little affected and 64.6 per cent of the population are engaged in it. Of the remaining 35.4 per cent, industries absorb 13.3 per cent, exploitation of minerals 0.1, transport 1.9, trade 8.1, professions and liberal arts 3.5, public administration 1.6, public force 1.7, domestic services 1.1, while 0.6 live on their own income, 0.5 are unproductive and 3.0 follow insufficiently described occupations.

47. AGRICULTURE — The agriculturist is the backbone of the State, and the strength of the rural society lies in the large number of proprietor farmers. It is a noteworthy fact that the proportion of these to those living directly on the land is double that in British Gujarat, and four times as high as in the Province of Bombay. The distribution in different grades to 1,000 workers on the land is as follows:—

Non-cultivating proprietor	...	...	17
Cultivating proprietor	...	...	420
Tenant cultivators	...	...	31
Agricultural labourers	...	...	166
Total			634

Making also for the strength of rural economy is the high percentage of earners and working dependents to the population. It is 49.5 per cent in the State as against 42.5 per cent in British Gujarat, 39.2 per cent in the Province of Bombay and 43.6 per cent in India.

The number of women who supplement the income of their families is in Baroda State exceptionally high — 744 to every 1,000, as against 567 in British Gujarat and 428 in the Province of Bombay. In those parts of the country, where custom and caste insist on the seclusion of women, such a state of affairs would indicate adverse economic conditions, but in Gujarat no such sentiments prevail, and the large number of women supplementing the income of their families adds strength to the economic structure.

These factors make for the strength of rural economy. On the other hand, there are three main factors which are a source of weakness to the rural society: (i) The first is the inadequacy of an average holding. The average holding in the State is only four acres (in British

Gujarat it is five), and the area of crop per head of population 1.35 acres (British Gujarat 1.36); and this problem is accentuated by fragmentation or subdivision. The measures taken to prevent further subdivision and to consolidate small holdings have been defeated by sentiment, laws of inheritance and succession, and the absence of diversified occupations. (ii) The second is the absence of irrigation facilities. The irrigated area constitutes only 6 per cent of the area of the State—a feature which is shared by the State with British Gujarat. (iii) The excessive number of cattle is another disadvantage. The number of cattle to 100 acres sown is almost double what it should be. In Baroda State it is 46 and in British Gujarat 50, and the area under fodder crops is only 2 per cent of the area sown. These factors, and the unfamiliarity of the farmers with scientific methods of cultivation and the fall in prices have affected injuriously the position of the cultivator. The extent of his indebtedness in the State cannot be stated with any accuracy but, as in the rest of India, it is heavy. The Government is pledged to develop co-operative credit to meet this need. Substantial measures are also being taken for the improvement of agriculture. Irrigation works have been constructed all over the State. Large irrigation schemes based on the Sabarmati and Zankhari rivers are being investigated; the Vijapur tube-well irrigation scheme costing in its experimental stage Rs. 10 lakhs is already in operation; on perennial rivers electric installations for pumping water are set up. A comprehensive programme for the improvement of irrigation tanks in the Mehsana district is being undertaken. In the Anreli district, wells are being dynamited to yield larger supplies. These and other measures which the State is taking are described in later chapters of the report.

48. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT—Industrially the Baroda State is an advanced area in India as shown by the following table:—

				Factory operatives	
				1941	1921
Textile	...	...	...	27,481	8,130
Chemicals	...	...	...	4,455	201
Building industries (including cement, stone quarries, bricks and tiles).				1,576	143
Miscellaneous.	...	...	...	3,051	2,739

The total amount of paid up capital of joint stock companies (excluding foreign insurance companies) working in the State has increased from Rs. 152 lakhs in 1921 to Rs. 1,787 lakhs in 1943, of which Rs. 117 lakhs and Rs. 352 lakhs respectively, represented the capital of companies incorporated in the State. A noteworthy feature of this industrial development is that it is broad based. There are

eighteen cotton mills, one woollen mill, two cotton and silk weaving factories. There is a large chemical industry, the Tata Chemicals in Okhamandal, the Alembic in Baroda, the Hindusthan Chemical and Colour Works and several other smaller concerns. The cement factory at Dwarka produces about 2,00,000 tons a year and the Okha Salt Works 75,000 tons of salt. There are two match factories, a sugar factory, oil mills and a number of miscellaneous industries.

49. RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS—Almost all religious denominations of India are found in the State. Of the total population, 2,560,000 or 89.34 per cent are Hindus, including 373,000 or 13 per cent Tribal, 224,000 or 7.83 per cent Muslims, 47,000 Jains, 9,500 Christians, 6,900 Parsis, and 2,400 Tribal. The spread of education and of liberal ideas has softened the edges and angularities of different faiths, and created a broad sense of toleration, which has strengthened the tradition of communal harmony in the State.

50. CHILD MARRIAGES—The result of thirty eight years of the Child Marriage Prevention Act is that marriages below the age of ten are practically non existent, and child marriages below the penalised age have decreased from 33.2 per cent in 1916–20 to 13 per cent in 1936–40, in spite of the age having been raised. The working and effect of this law is reviewed in the chapter on Social and Economic Legislation.

51. LITERACY—There are now 653,000 literates (482,000 males and 171,000 females) and 160,000 partially literate. Thus, 229 per mille of the population are literate, 56 per mille partially literate, and the wholly illiterate form 715 per mille as against 780 in 1931.

The literates have increased by 50.2 per cent in the last ten years. The male literates have increased by 35.8 per cent, while literacy among women has shown the remarkable progress of 114.2 per cent. The great disparity among sexes in the matter of education, however, persists, the percentage of male literates being 32.8 and of females 12.4.

At the top of the literate population, stands the advanced section comprising those who are able to read and write in English. The literates in English now number 56,953 (52,300 male and 4,653 females) — an increase of 77.9 per cent over 1931 figures (73.1 per cent for males and 157.9 per cent for females).

CHAPTER II

THE PALACE

52. DISTRICT TOURS — In December 1942, His Highness the Maharaja undertook a tour in Mehsana and Navsari districts. He visited eight talukas of the former and four of the latter. The object was to study local conditions and to reassure the people in the midst of the civil disobedience movement. At the Darbars held in these places, His Highness explained the attitude of the State to the war and the reasons for it. He also announced donations amounting to Rs. 3,12,500 for supplying standard cloth to the poor at reduced prices and grants amounting to Rs. 9.50 lakhs to prant panchayats for accelerating their programmes of rural works — wells and communications. The messages of His Highness were deeply appreciated.

53. WORK WITH ARMoured UNIT — In February 1943 His Highness the Maharaja worked with an armoured unit.

Her Highness the Maharani Saheb inaugurated the Ladies Olympic sports of the Hind Vijaya Gymkhana on the 7th January. She opened the Padmavatidevi Tuberculosis Sanatorium on 17th March.

54. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS — His Highness the Raja Saheb and Her Highness the Regent of Sawantwadi paid a visit to Baroda in December 1942.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Dhrangadhra came to Baroda to receive administrative training.

CHAPTER III

RELATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS

55. GENERAL — The Baroda Government continued to be on cordial relations with the British Government and with the Governments of other Indian States. These relations are conducted through the Minister.

56. RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS — Reciprocal arrangements were reached during the year

- (i) with the Government of India
 - (a) for the continuance for a further period of three years of relief from levy of double income tax in respect of incomes taxed both in British India and the Baroda State ;
 - (b) for extradition of persons charged with offences under the Civil Pioneer Force Ordinance (Sec. II (e) (ii))
- (ii) with the Government of Bombay for exempting owners of goods vehicles in Baroda State from the Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax ;
- (iii) with the Indore State for extradition of deserters during the period of the present war ;
- (iv) with the Bhavnagar State for supplying free of cost copies of judgments to and by courts in the Amreli district.

57. PASSPORTS — There were 474 applications for passports to East Africa, South Africa and other places.

There were no applications for passports to Europe or America.

58. CONFERENCES — The Baroda Government participated in the following conferences held by the Government of India in New Delhi :—

1. Labour Ministers' conference
2. Food conferences
3. Standard cloth Distribution conference.

They also participated in the XIX session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Trivendrum.

59. **SCHEMES OR PROJECTS** — The Baroda Government participated in the scheme prepared by the Government of India for controlling the breeding of locusts in desert areas.

The Baroda Government continued collaboration with the Government of Bombay in the joint scheme for investigation into the diseases of poultry. The Assistant Disease Investigation Officer is stationed in Baroda under the administrative control of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

60. **CUSTOMS & EXCISE** — The Baroda Government agreed to the levy of excise duty on tobacco and vegetable product commonly known as Banaspati. They have applied the Tobacco Excise Duty Act with the necessary modifications and accepted for the duration of the war the basis proposed by the Government of India for retention by them of the proceeds of the duties collected in the State. No enactment regarding levy of excise on vegetable product has been so far undertaken.

The Government of India issued in January 1942 an ordinance imposing an additional custom duty of one anna per pound on raw cotton. His Highness' Government have agreed to levy this duty at their ports. The proceeds of this duty are being credited to a separate fund for the benefit of cotton growers. Provinces and States which reduce their surplus of cotton by diverting a portion of the area under cotton to food crops get a subsidy from the cotton fund for giving financial aid to cultivators. The Government of India paid to His Highness' Government a sum of Rs. 97,993 from this fund to cover remissions granted by them on all lands in the State usually under short staple cotton which were, during the last kharif season diverted to the growing of food crops.

61. **RAILWAYS** — His Highness' Government purchased from the Government of India the Broach Jambusar railway with its extension to Kavi and Dehej. The management of the lines was taken over by the G. B. S. Railways on 1st October 1942.

The question of Baroda Government's financial interest in the Tapti Valley railway was settled with the Government of India.

The Baroda Government agreed to extend the period of the agreement entered into with the B. B. & C. I. railway company for the supply of electrical energy to the B. B. & C. I. railway at Baroda for a period of ten years from 1st January 1942.

62. **WAR EFFORTS** — The Baroda squadron of the R. A. F. is continuing to maintain by its record the high traditions of that Force:

the same remark applies to H. M. I. S. Baroda. The Second Baroda infantry proceeded on war duty outside the State. The Mechanical Transport Sections also continued on active service. The training of technicians continues at the Kalabhavan and the Railway Workshops, Baroda and at the J. N. Technical Institution, Navsari. When these trainees return from war service, the Baroda Government have agreed to give them preference while filling vacancies in the State service. The school for training of Motor Transport drivers and mechanics is maintained. The training of candidates for the Auxiliary Nursing Service continues at the State General Hospital, Baroda. With the improvement in general war situation, relaxation of A. R. P. measures in parts of the State has become possible.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb gave a donation of

- (i) £ 6,000 to the Royal Air Force Welfare Fund,
- (ii) Rs. 75,000 to the Indian Air Force Welfare Fund,
- (iii) £ 500 for Christmas and New Year Gifts to the members of the Baroda Squadron of Spitfires.

The State War Gift Fund now exceeds Rs. 2.43 lakhs. In addition to the donation of Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of five armoured carriers the fund has given the following donations :—

- Rs. 10,000 to the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association,
- Rs. 5,000 for opening two welfare centres for the Baroda Army,
- Rs. 5,000 for National War Front Activities in the State.

Investments by the State in 3% Defence loan and interest-free bonds have amounted to nearly Rs. 83.63 lakhs and Rs. 25 lakhs respectively. Accurate statistics are not available of the investments in the war loans made by the people of the State.

The National War Front organisation has received wide support and the movement is spreading to the remote villages. In towns and villages people have formed themselves into bands for helping the police. The weekly bulletin of the propaganda sub-committee and the National War Front supplement to it issued by the Publicity department have a wide circulation.

CHAPTER IV

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

63. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL — Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, K. C. I. E., in his capacity as Minister of the Baroda State continued as President of the Council. The other members during the year were :—

Mr. B. A. Gaekwar,

„ M. C. Desai, and

„ R. S. Mane Patil.

64. TOURS — The Minister and the members toured 25 days in the five districts, to keep themselves in direct touch with the rural areas.

CHAPTER V

LEGISLATION

Dhara Sabha

(i) Constitution and functions

65. CONSTITUTION — The Dhara Sabha or the Legislative Council, as reconstituted under the Government of Baroda Act, 1940 and inaugurated on the 16th of November 1940, continued to function during the year. It consists of sixty members, of whom twentyseven are elected by territorial constituencies on a wide franchise. Every person, who holds land assessed at not less than Rs. 30, or pays an income tax, or owns immovable property worth Rs. 1,000 or more, or has passed the matriculation or an equivalent examination, is entitled to vote and to stand as a candidate. Besides these, ten members represent industry, commerce, labour and the co-operative movement as special interests. The other twenty-three members of the Dhara Sabha consist of six officials and seventeen non-official gentlemen, nominated to represent minorities etc. The Dewan is the President. There is also a deputy president, who, after the first three years, will be elected by the Dhara Sabha. Three parliamentary secretaries are appointed to assist the members of the Executive Council in their work relating to Dhara Sabha, and a Dhara Sabha Secretariat, directly under the President, has been formed.

66. POWERS OF THE HOUSE — The Dhara Sabha has the power to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss and vote on the budget. The members may also ask questions and move resolutions on matters of public interest, subject to certain limitations. All legislation requires the assent of the Maharaja. Measures affecting the Army, the Privy Purse, treaties or relations with the Paramount Power or other States, the credit of the State, or the provisions of the Government of Baroda Act are excluded from its cognisance. Similarly, expenditure charged to the revenues of the State is not submitted to the vote of the House. There are certain matters which require the previous sanction of the Maharaja, before measures relating to them can be introduced. The Dewan has power of certification. He may certify a measure before the House as affecting the tranquility of the State, in which case the measure is dropped, or he may certify that a bill or amendment rejected by the Dhara Sabha is an emergent measure; and submit it to the Maharaja to enact it as law.

(ii) Sessions

67. FEBRUARY SESSION — The first session of the year was held on 15th February. It was not possible to hold the session earlier, as bye-elections had to be made. The session lasted for four days. 19 official and 3 non-official bills were before the House. Out of these 19 official bills, 12 were passed, 6 were referred to select committees and one was withdrawn. Of the 3 non-official bills, one was passed by the House, one was postponed and one dropped. There were 6 motions asking for leave to introduce Bills. Leave was granted. A large number of resolutions were tabled at this session, of which 99 were discussed and 17 were postponed to the next session. Of the resolutions discussed, a considerable number pertained to the food problem of the State. 88 questions were asked.

68. JULY SESSION — The budget session of the year, which commenced on 19th July 1943, carried on its business for six days. There were 13 official and 3 non-official bills. All official bills were passed. They included the Telephone Bill and the Wills Bill, which were new measures. Of the three non-official bills, one was passed, one was referred to select committee, and the second reading of one was postponed for allowing the mover to suggest an amendment in the light of the discussion. There were 12 motions asking for leave to introduce Bills. Two of them which were discussed, were lost and the remaining could not be taken up for want of time. Of the motions that could not be taken up for want of time, two proposed legislation for the regulation of caste and other dinners. The President suggested that as some restriction was called for in view of the food situation at present, the Revenue Member would meet some members of the Dhara Sabha and discuss the question with them as a war measure. There were in all 32 resolutions. Among the congratulatory resolutions, there were several conveying the good wishes of the Dhara Sabha to the Talukdars and Chiefs and the people of the estates in Kathiawar, Sabarkantha and Revakantha attached to the Baroda State. Of the 85 cut-motions tabled, 65 were discussed and 20 were guillotined for want of time. The cut-motions that were discussed were either not pressed or withdrawn on information given by Government Members. 64 questions were tabled.

Legislation

69. ACTS — The following Acts were passed during the year :—

- (i) The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act (No. XXXI of 1942).
- (ii) An Act to amend the Hindu Code (No. XXI of 1942).
This makes the absolute property of a Hindu wife,

other than her stridhana, also liable for claims by third parties. The Act also recognises near relations like mother, father, sister and brother of a married Hindu wife as heirs and places them in the order of succession to her stridhana and other absolute property after the husband.

- (iii) The Rent Regulation (Amendment) Act (No. IV of 1943). This gives to the claim of the landlord for rent priority over all other dues except Government dues.
- (iv) The Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Act (No. X of 1943). This amends the definition of the term "khetut" (agriculturist) so as to include only such persons as earn their livelihood wholly or mainly from agriculture. The Act extends the benefit of suspension of execution of decrees against the agriculturists during years of scarcity, to decrees for the payment of money by instalments.
- (v) The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Act (No. X of 1943). By the amendment all offences under Acts other than the Penal Code not punishable with death, transportation or imprisonment for a period exceeding six months are made triable summarily.
- (vi) The District Local Boards (Amendment) Act (No. VII of 1943). This empowers the Suba to take steps to call a meeting for electing a president, and vice president when both these office bearers resign or are disqualified.
- (vii) The B Class Municipality (Amendment) Act (No. IX of 1943). By the amendment grants to public libraries are made compulsory on B Class municipalities.

During the year Indian Tobacco (Excise Duty) Act (No. X of 1943) was applied to the State by a notification with suitable modifications.

70. MISCELLANEOUS — The number of amendments to existing rules was 43.

During the year under report 28 bills were published in the Adnya Patrika for eliciting public opinion. Of these 9 were subsequently passed into law and 19 were pending at the end of the year.

Two ordinances and twenty six orders connected with the war were promulgated; Gujarati translations of ordinances, orders and rules previously promulgated were also published.

CHAPTER VI

JUSTICE

71. **THE COURTS** — Besides the High Court, there were five district judges' courts and the Okhamandal sessions court, 24 small causes courts, 24 subordinate judges' courts, 5 district magistrates' courts, 24 magistrates' courts and 18 revenue magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd class magisterial powers.

There were also five revenue officers exercising civil powers, two village munsiffs' courts and five persons exercising magisterial powers.

72. **SUPERVISION** — In February 1939, a scheme for closer supervision over lower courts and careful scrutiny of judgments was put into operation. The work was distributed among the judges of the High Court. During the year 1,334 judgments and 930 daily diaries of magistrates were scrutinised. This scrutiny has been of educative value especially in the case of junior magistrates.

Huzur Appeals

73. **THE HUZUR NYAYA SABHA** — To advise His Highness the Maharaja Saheb in the disposal of civil and criminal appeals and revisional applications which may under the law for the time being in force lie to His Highness, from the decisions of the High Court, a Huzur Nyaya Sabha is constituted. The Huzur Nyaya Sabha is composed of three members selected from the following :—

- (1) Judges of the High Court,
- (2) the Legal Remembrancer,
- (3) a list of persons determined by His Highness and possessing the qualifications mentioned in section 38 of the Government of Baroda Act,

provided that a person connected with the proceedings at any stage may not sit on the bench hearing the case.

74. WORK DONE — The following statement shows the work done by the Huzur Nyaya Sabha :—

Nature of work	File including arrears		Disposal		Pending at the end of the year	
	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43
CIVIL						
Appeals	33	42	8	7	25	35
Extraordinary applications.	96	105	50	45	46	60
Review applications ...	1	2	...	2	1	...
CRIMINAL						
Appeals	19	20	13	10	6	10
Extraordinary applications.	69	65	52	51	17	14

75. DETAILS OF CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF — During the year under report 54 civil cases were disposed of. Out of these 54 cases 35 cases were disallowed prima facie and 19 cases were heard by the Huzur Nyaya Sabha. The judgments of the High Court were upheld in 14 cases and reversed in 5 cases.

76. DETAILS OF CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF — During the year 61 criminal cases were disposed of. 48 applications were disallowed. 13 cases were submitted to Huzur. The decisions of the High Court were upheld in all cases except one.

77. KHATA NIHAYA SADAR ADALAT — The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat is the highest departmental tribunal for the disposal of appeals and applications against decisions of heads of departments, Ministers and the Council. Its decisions to allow appeals or applications are submitted to His Highness in the form of recommendations for final orders. During the year, 14 cases were submitted to the Huzur, the recommendations of the Adalat were accepted in 8 cases, accepted with modifications in one case and not accepted in five.

Civil Justice

78. LITIGATION — The total number of civil suits on the file was 38,621 as against 42,156 in the previous year. The number of suits decided was 28,720. The number of suits left undisposed of at the end of the year was 9,901. There were 603 suits pending for more than a year showing an increase of 41 on the figures of the previous year.

The total value of the suits was Rs. 35.89 lakhs as against 37.24 lakhs in the previous year. The average value of the suits increased from Rs. 497 to Rs. 504.

79. EXECUTION — 15,669 applications for execution, out of 23,112 were disposed of during the year. The amount realised in execution increased from Rs. 12.45 lakhs to Rs. 13.92 lakhs and the percentage of recovery was 35 as against 31 in the previous year.

80. DURATION — In the district courts the duration of ordinary suits showed a decrease from 367 days to 346 days. In the munsiffs' courts, the duration of ordinary suits increased from 157 days to 163 and of small causes suits from 63 to 66 days. The duration of first appeals in the High Court increased from 246 to 259 and the duration of regular appeals in the district courts increased from 201 to 207.

At the end of the year there were no appeals pending for more than a year in the High Court. There were 158 old appeals as against 73 in the preceding year in the district courts, and 525 suits as against 517 in the previous year in the munsiff and the small causes courts.

81. THE HIGH COURT — A statement showing the work done by the High Court is given below:—

	1941-42	1942-43
First appeals including arrears	158	176
„ disposed of	67	112
Second appeals including arrears	503	556
„ disposed of	296	296
Miscellaneous appeals with arrears	85	62
„ disposed of	55	50

82. DISTRICT COURTS — A statement of the appellate work done in the district courts is given below:—

	1941-42	1942-43
Regular appeals filed including arrears	1,682	1,681
Regular appeals disposed of	1,045	874
Miscellaneous appeals filed	200	216
Miscellaneous appeals disposed of	149	145

83. MUNSIFF AND SMALL CAUSES COURTS — Civil work in the munsiff and the small causes courts is shown below:—

	1941-42	1942-43
Ordinary suits with arrears	10,907	10,586
„ disposed of	7,280	6,803
Small Causes suits with arrears	18,400	15,812
„ disposed of	15,053	12,819
Miscellaneous suits with arrears	7,748	7,330
„ disposed of	6,520	6,119
Ordinary execution applications with arrears	15,379	13,942
„ disposed of	8,993	8,441
Small Causes execution applications with arrears	10,887	9,170
„ disposed of	8,625	7,228

84. VILLAGE MUNSIFFS — The village munsiff courts worked at Variav in Kamrej taluka and at Limbodra in Kalol taluka.

Criminal Justice

85. CRIMINAL WORK — The total number of cases on the file, including arrears, decreased from 39,428 to 38,085. 32,196 cases were disposed of as against 35,852 in the previous year leaving a balance of 5,889 cases as against 3,576 in the previous year.

86. HIGH COURT — The following statement shows the disposal of criminal work in the High Court:—

	1941-42	1942-43
First appeals with arrears	80	74
„ disposed of	75	49
Second appeals with arrears	82	80
„ disposed of	75	73
Acquittal appeals with arrears	129	120
„ disposed of	106	98
Referred cases	38	30
„ disposed of	32	29
Revision cases	353	258
„ disposed of	328	252
Miscellaneous applications	107	130
„ disposed of	102	127

87. DISTRICT COURTS — The following statement shows the criminal work in the district courts:—

	1941-42	1942-43
Regular appeals with arrears	501	475
„ disposed of	434	403
Miscellaneous appeals with arrears	38	27
„ disposed of	35	23
Sessions cases with arrears	172	262
„ disposed of	157	232
Miscellaneous applications	476	575
„ disposed of	452	555

88. MAGISTRATES' COURTS — The following statement shows the criminal work in the magistrates' courts:—

	1941-42	1942-43
No. of cases with arrears	32,236	30,125
„ disposed of	29,168	24,751
Miscellaneous applications	5,262	5,929
„ disposed of	4,931	5,590

89. DURATION — The average duration of criminal cases is shown below:—

Courts	Average duration in days	
	1941-42	1942-43
HIGH COURT		
First appeals	67	51
Second appeals	23	38
Acquittal appeals	81	67
SESSIONS COURTS		
Sessions cases	32	27
Criminal appeals	61	68
MAGISTRATES' COURTS		
Criminal cases	42	46

Registration

90. DOCUMENTS REGISTERED — The number of documents registered during the year was 70,294 and their total value Rs. 5.85 lakhs as compared to 63,223 documents of the value of Rs. 4.65 lakhs in the previous year. The increase was due to increased investment in immovable property as the result of war conditions.

The documents registered by co-operative societies and agricultural banks, which are exempted from registration fees numbered 737 and the remissions thus granted amounted to Rs. 8,077.

The gross receipts from registration fees increased from Rs. 3.0 lakhs to Rs. 3.45 lakhs. The expenditure of the department was Rs. 0.70 lakh and the net income rose from Rs. 2.34 lakhs to Rs. 2.76 lakhs.

91. RECORD OF RIGHTS — The Record of Rights Act has been in force in the Karjan taluka of the Baroda district since 1932. During the year, 584 lists were sent to the revenue authorities.

CHAPTER VII

LAW AND ORDER

92. THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE CONGRESS MOVEMENT IN THE STATE: The situation created in British India by the resolution of the A. I. C. C. on the 8th August had its repercussions in the State. The Baroda Prajamandal passed on 18th August 1942 a resolution in regard to war efforts in the State identical in terms with that of the A. I. C. C. The Baroda Government thereupon issued orders under the Defence of Baroda rules internment the members of the Working Committee and declaring the Prajamandal an unlawful organisation. The movement in the State then became merged with the general movement in this part of India and was directed into the same channels and financed by the same agencies. There followed unlawful meetings and processions and arrests: publications of pamphlets and and leaflets advocating sabotage: organised victimisation of persons opposed to the Congress programme: withdrawal of students from educational institutions and setting fire to buildings and equipment: damage to post and telegraph offices and telegraph and telephone lines: attacks on postal runners and removal and destruction of mail bags: and sabotage of railway lines both on the B. B. & C. I. railway and G. B. S. railway. The military had to open fire on a defiant crowd on the 18th August near the Jubilee gardens in Baroda city and two persons were killed. Two serious cases of sabotage were (i) at Isand where fishplates had been removed from the rails on 4th September and derailment occurred as the result of which five men belonging to the Baroda State forces and the police lost their lives and 15 men were injured, and (ii) on 22nd August 1942 the G. B. S. railway line at Choranda and Vemar was destroyed and the stations at Vemar and Choranda were set on fire. In the latter case fifteen persons have been convicted and one case is still pending.

The members of the Working Committee detained under the Defence of Baroda rules having expressed a desire to reconsider the resolution of the 18th August, were released on 16th March 1943 on their agreeing to the following:—

- (i) "The Government will release the detainees.
- (ii) "The President of the Praja Mandal will issue a circular to all Prajamandal committees in the State that the resolution of 18th August is held in abeyance and should not be acted upon and that in particular, all Prajamandal workers should obey Government's orders and laws.

- (iii) "The President will convene a meeting of the Working Committee for cancelling the resolution of the 18th August in so far as it relates to the war and activities connected therewith.
- (iv) "The Government will then rescind their notification of the 18th August declaring the Prajamandal as unlawful organisation. All persons under trial or in jail for violation of orders in regard to processions and meetings will be released as soon as the Working Committee's resolution is passed. Fines levied from persons convicted of the above offences will be refunded on application to the courts. Similarly, fines not yet recovered will not be recovered on submission of applications. Crimes involving violence (which is not of a purely technical nature) or sabotage are not included in this amnesty."

The revised resolution was passed on the 8th April 1943 and the Government issued orders implementing the rest of the conditions.

A section of the Prajamandal objected to the settlement and reaffirmed the resolution and programme of the 18th August. The principal movers had therefore to be detained under rule 26 of the Defence of Baroda Rules.

The Government have sanctioned compassionate allowances to the members of the families of those who lost their lives in the firing on the 18th August and by the Isand sabotage.

The movement has now subsided all over the State.

One effect of the movement has been to create divisions and splits and disturb the harmony prevailing among the various sections of the population. It is earnestly hoped that, with the rescinding of the resolution of the 18th August, co-operation in the task of alleviating the economic hardships caused by the war, will eventually restore goodwill.

PRESS REPORT

93. PRINTING PRESSES — The number of printing presses at the beginning of the year was 91. 4 new presses were started and 1 was closed. There were thus 94 presses actually working at the end of the year.

94. OUTPUT OF THE PRESS — The total literary output of the press was 3 dailies, 1 bi-weekly, 6 weeklies, 1 fortnightly, 57 periodicals and 130 books including pamphlets.

The leading news-papers published in the State were the Sayaji Vijaya and Nava Gujarat in Gujarati and the Jagrati in Marathi.

95. PERIODICALS AND THEIR NATURE — The periodicals are classified below:—

Subject		Number	Subject		Number
General literature	...	26	Physical culture...	...	4
	Religion	...	Commerce	...	1
	Law	...	Communal	...	10
		2	Miscellaneous	...	7
			Total	...	57

96. BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS — 130 books and pamphlets were published during the year under report.

Subject		Number	Subject		Number
Politics	...	2	Civics	...	1
Administration	...	1	Physical Culture	...	1
Education	...	6	Science	...	3
Religion	...	3	History	...	3
Poetry	...	21	Logic	...	1
Drama	...	2	Political Economy	...	1
Novel	...	34	Literature	...	3
Biography	...	14	Travel & Description	...	3
Law	...	1	Miscellaneous	...	30

Novels, poetical works and biographies constituted a large proportion of these.

97. TOPICS DISCUSSED — The main topics discussed in the press related to responsible government in the State; the merger scheme for attached estates; the movement initiated in the State by the resolution of the State Prajamandal and its effects; and the food position in the State.

98. GENERAL TONE OF THE PRESS — The general tone of the Press was; on the whole, loyal to the Baroda and the British Governments. While the civil disobedience movement was in progress, the newspapers in the State, with only a few exceptions, urged its abandonment and restoration of normal conditions.

99. DOMICILE CERTIFICATES — 18 applications for domicile certificates were received during the year. Certificates were granted to 16 persons and 2 applications were rejected.

100. SECURITY CASES — There were in all 240 security cases prepared by the Police. Securities were ordered in 82 cases and the accused were acquitted in 103 cases. 55 cases remained pending at the end of the year.

The Police

101. STRENGTH AND DISTRIBUTION — The strength of the police force in the State was 1,044 officers and 4,099 men as against 974 officers and 3,523 men in the previous year.

The proportion of the number of the police to the population varies with the different districts from 1 policeman to 984 inhabitants in Baroda district to 1 policeman to 336 inhabitants in Amreli district. It averages 1 to 681 for the State. The proportion of the number of police to the area is 1 policeman for .019 square miles, in Baroda city, 2.87 sq. miles in Baroda district, 2.74 sq. miles in Navsari district, 2.11 sq. miles in Mehsana district, and 1.96 sq. miles in Amreli district. There are 2,912 Hindus and 1,259 Muslims in the police force, their percentages to the total force being 67.5 and 32.3 respectively.

102. EDUCATION — The percentage of men able to read and write was 83.92 as against 84.47 in the preceding year.

New recruits are regularly trained at the district head-quarters and are sent out when they have passed the recruits' course. Training is continued in the talukas and head-quarters where regular parades and inspections are held. Special attention is paid to drill, discipline and out door games.

103. PUNISHMENTS AND REWARDS — The percentage of the total number of punishments to the actual force was 12.24 as against 9.58 in the preceding year.

160 members of the police force were given money rewards as against 108 in the preceding year. Special promotions were given in 21 cases as against ten last year. Besides this, 15 members of the village police and 31 persons from the public were also given money rewards as against 19 and 22 respectively in the previous year.

Crime

104. FLUCTUATION IN THE NUMBER OF CRIMES — The total number of cognisable crimes reported to the police was 4,092. 4 cases were taken up from the dormant file. The following table shows the

fluctuations in the crimes reported to the police in the last five years, excluding cases taken up from dormant file:—

Year	Baroda City	Baroda District	Mehsana District	Navsari District	Amreli District	Total
1942-43 ..	518	1,283	1,418	519	354	4,092
1941-42 ...	387	984	1,188	424	300	3,283
1940-41 ...	349	832	1,211	254	298	2,944
1939-40 ...	408	999	1,446	299	282	3,434
1938-39 ...	336	923	1,241	282	227	3,009

The following table shows the increase or decrease district by district under three main classes of cognisable offences:—

District	1942-43	1941-42	Increase	Decrease
CLASS I. OFFENCES AGAINST PERSON				
Baroda City ...	75	57	18	...
Baroda ...	261	224	37	...
Mehsana ...	403	326	77	...
Navsari ...	101	82	19	...
Amreli ...	52	80	...	28
Total ...	892	769	151	28
CLASS II. OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY				
Baroda City ...	319	239	80	...
Baroda ...	661	560	101	...
Mehsana ...	737	727	10	...
Navsari ...	281	295	...	14
Amreli ...	133	137	...	4
Total ...	2,131	1,958	191	18
CLASS III. MISCELLANEOUS				
Baroda City ...	124	91	33	...
Baroda ...	361	200	161	...
Mehsana ...	278	135	143	...
Navsari ...	137	47	90	...
Amreli ..	169	83	86	...
Total ...	1,069	556	513	...
Grand total ...	4,092	3,283	855	46
Net increase = 809				

The main reasons for the increase in the number of crimes are rise in the prices of foodstuffs and the political movement in the State initiated in August.

105. ARREARS AND DISPOSAL — Besides 4,092 cases reported to the Police during the year, 5 cases were taken up from the dormant file, 1,368 cases were pending with the police at the beginning of the year. Thus the total number of cases for disposal with the police was 5,465. These cases were dealt with as follows:—

1. Time-barred ...	...	...	...
2. Found to be false ...	...	...	219
3. Placed on the Dormant file	...	...	774
4. Compounded before trial ...	...	...	12
5. Undetected ...	...	...	249
6. Placed before the courts ...	...	...	3,010
7. Pending with the police, at the close of the year.			1,202

Total. 5,465

106. DISPOSAL OF CASES BEFORE MAGISTRATES — Besides 2,824 cases placed before the courts, there were 506 cases pending with them from the list of the previous year. The total number of cases with the magistrates for disposal was, therefore, 3,330 as against 2,592 in the preceding year. These cases were dealt with as follows:—

Compounded or withdrawn in courts.	615
Ended in conviction.	1,349
Ended in acquittal.	554
Pending with magistrates.	812
	<u>3,330</u>

The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried was 70·89 as against 64·70 last year.

Grave Crimes

107. GRAVE CRIMES — The number of grave crimes increased. The following table shows the result of the cases dealt with by courts:—

Important Offences	Number of true cases	Number of actually tried	Number ended in conviction	Percentage of conviction	
				1942-43	1941-42
Murder and culpable homicide.	168	111	51	45·95	61·02
Dacoity ...	71	33	22	66·66	69·23
Robbery ...	48	20	9	45	51·72
Burglary ...	591	168	132	78·57	66·14
Thefts ...	880	490	304	62·04	38·25

108. **PROPERTY STOLEN** — The number of cases of stolen property reported was 1,559 as against 1,235 in the previous year. The percentage of cases in which property was recovered to cases reported was 41·07 as against 48·90 in the previous year.

Miscellaneous

109. **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT** — The Criminal investigation department and the Finger Print Bureau continued to work satisfactorily. The former had heavy responsibilities added to it by the political movement.

110. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 16 lakhs as against Rs. 15 lakhs in the previous year. The additional expenditure was largely due to the movement.

111. **GENERAL REMARKS** — The year was one of strain and anxiety caused by the conditions created by the war and the civil disobedience movement. The police force had to be strengthened all over the State and special measures organised for keeping the peace and dealing with the increase in crimes that occurred. It is gratifying that with only a few exceptions, the police force proved equal to the demands on it and was successful in maintaining peace and detecting and prosecuting offences.

Extradition

112. **EXTRADITION DEMANDS** — The Baroda Government made extradition demands in 155 cases and received similar demands from the British districts and Indian States in 127 cases. 292 persons involved in 131 cases were surrendered to Baroda; and Baroda surrendered 282 persons involved in 100 cases. Of the 391 persons tried in 174 cases 131 were discharged, 84 were acquitted, 54 were sentenced and 11 were dealt with otherwise. 44 cases against 111 persons remained pending at the end of the year.

Prisons

113. **NUMBER OF PRISONERS** — 7,978 new prisoners were admitted during the year, of these 7,749 were males and 229 females. Of the total number of 7,978 prisoners, 2,886 were convicts, 4,978 under trials, 106 civil court prisoners and 8 lunatics. Of the convicts admitted during the year 152 or 7·6 per cent were sentenced to terms not exceeding one month, 202 or 10·2 per cent to terms exceeding one month but not less than three months.

114. **HABITUALS** — Of the convicts admitted during the year 50 or 2·5 per cent were habituals. Their conduct was on the whole satisfactory.

115. JAIL OFFENCES — The number of jail offences during the year was 49 as against 62 in the preceding year.

116. CONDITIONAL RELEASE OF PRISONERS — The system continued during the year and 27 prisoners were released.

117. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The total net income from all jails and lock-ups amounted to about Rs. 43,600 as against Rs. 26,600 in the previous year. The expenditure amounted to about Rs. 2.69 lakhs as against Rs. 1.61 lakhs in the previous year. The average cost to Government per prisoner was about Rs. 141 as against Rs. 101 in the previous year.

CHAPTER VIII

THE ARMY

118. STRENGTH OF THE REGULAR FORCE — The following table shows the strength of State troops (regulars):—

Description of the force	Fixed strength prior to re-organisation	Fixed strength after re-organisation	Actual strength
Artillery ...	93	Amalgamated with Baroda Detachment as an Ordnance Platoon.	
Cavalry ...	1,500	819	777
Infantry ...	3,071	3,040	2,657
Band ...	111	61	61
Chief of the Military Staff & Staff officers.	6	4	4
Total ...	4,781	3,924	3,499

Non-effectives have not been included in the above.

119. STRENGTH OF THE IRREGULAR FORCE — The following table shows the total fixed strength of the Irregular force during the year:—

Horse

Shiledars	Shibandi	Paganihaya	Khalsa	Total
908	383	182	577	2,000

Foot

Shibandi	Khalsa	Total
1,139	667	1,806

120. COST OF MAINTENANCE OF REGULAR FORCE — The following table shows the cost of maintaining the regular force during the year:—

Description	Year	
	1942-43 Rs.	1941-42 Rs.
Artillery	Amalgamated with Infantry 7,73,476	15,312
Cavalry		6,24,287
Infantry	12,94,687	10,78,597
Band	39,126	38,560
Chief of the Military Staff and his Staff.	76,178	70,556
Medical establishment	28,011	27,408
Veterinary establishment	13,130	12,970
Total	22,24,608	18,67,689

The increase is due to the higher expenditure on pay, purchase of deadstock and bhatta bhada of cavalry and infantry units and supply of gram and grass at higher rates.

The annual average cost of each effective in the Cavalry was Rs. 956, in the Infantry Rs. 487, and in the Band Rs. 641. The average cost of an effective in the force taken together was Rs. 635 or about Rs. 53 a month.

The expenditure on account of the irregular force came to Rs. 54,250 as against Rs. 45,631.

121. TOTAL COST OF THE ARMY — A fixed grant of Rs. 20,00,000 has been allotted for maintenance charges and Rs. 2,50,000 for pension and gratuity. The total cost of the Army for the year came to Rs. 22,78,858 as against Rs. 19,13,320 for the last year and Rs. 2,05,322 have been expended this year from the pension and gratuity fund. The additional expenditure incurred as the result of war conditions has been met by a special grant over and above the fixed allotment.

122. IMPORTANT CHANGES AND ACTIVITIES — The following are among the important activities in the year:—

- (i) Lieut-General Sir F. Gwatkin, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., late Military Adviser-in-Chief, I.S.F., visited the State forces twice and made useful suggestions for improving the efficiency of the forces,

- (ii) The 2nd Infantry having moved to field service, all ranks in it have been paid on the Indian Army rates and the scheme for the grant of emergency commissions to the officers has been accepted by the Baroda Government.
- (iii) The Driving and Maintenance School continued to do useful work. It has so far trained 1,500 men from the Indian Army and 200 men from the State Forces in different courses.
- (iv) The construction of new lines and improvement of the old ones and the construction of residences for officers made good progress. So far Rs. 4.50 lakhs have been spent and Rs. 1.50 lakhs have been sanctioned for the current year out of the Rs. 10 lakhs grant sanctioned for the purpose.
- (v) Officers and men from the State forces were sent for training in several courses outside.
- (vi) Maternity and Child Welfare work was started with the help of a grant from the War gifts fund.

123. DISCIPLINE AND EFFICIENCY MAINTAINED—The discipline and efficiency of the troops were maintained and improvement was effected in practical training.

CHAPTER IX

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

124. ESTIMATES —The budget estimates for the year anticipated a revenue of Rs. 272.48 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 272.13 lakhs with a surplus of Rs. 0.35 lakh. The year proved better than expected. The receipts were Rs. 363.67 lakhs showing an improvement of Rs. 91.19 lakhs and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 304.63 lakhs exceeding the estimates by Rs. 32.50 lakhs. The year closed with a surplus of Rs. 59.04 lakhs.

125. INCREASE IN RECEIPTS —Improvements in revenue as compared with budget estimates were under the following heads:—

Land Revenue	...	Rs. 3.41 lakhs
Taxes	...	" 11.26 "
Forest	...	" 4.02 "
Excise	...	" 12.53 "
Customs	...	" 31.51 "
Stamps	...	" 6.10 "
Registration	...	" 1.00 lakh
Interest	...	" 1.13 lakhs
Railways	...	" 1.09 "
Agriculture	...	" 0.85 lakh
P. W. D.	...	" 5.37 lakhs
Miscellaneous	...	" 7.35 "

counter-balanced by a decrease to the extent of Rs. 2.00 lakhs under Electric and other heads.

126. VARIATIONS IN EXPENDITURE —Increases in expenditure occurred under the following heads:—

Amount transferred to the		
Land Revenue equalisation fund	Rs. 3.41 lakhs	
Interest	...	" 1.40 "
Jail	...	" 0.55 lakh
Medical	...	" 0.80 "

Miscellaneous	...	Rs. 39.73 lakhs
Pension	...	„ 0.71 lakh
Subsidies to Local Boards	...	„ 4.81 lakhs
Famine Relief	...	„ 3.87 „
counter - balanced by decreases under		
Land Revenue	...	„ 0.70 lakh
Central Administration	...	„ 0.83 „
Probationers' pay	...	„ 0.75 „
Police	...	„ 0.74 „
Education	...	„ 1.70 lakhs
Agriculture	...	„ 1.43 „
Commerce & Industries	...	„ 1.18 „
Public Works	...	„ 6.26 „

127. RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURE —The receipts and disbursements of the year under report are compared in the following statements with those of the previous year. In regard to commercial departments — Railway, Electric, Ports and the Press, only the net revenue has been shown:—

RECEIPTS

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sr. No.	Head	1942-43	1941-42	Increase or decrease
1	Land Revenue	106.31	95.07	+11.24
2	Taxes	23.76	12.41	+11.35
3	Forest	9.52	6.08	+ 3.44
4	Excise	41.53	31.05	+10.48
5	Opium	3.04	2.54	+ 0.50
6	Customs	55.01	27.46	+27.55
7	Salt	5.70	11.40	— 5.70
8	Stamps	17.10	14.60	+ 2.50
9	Registration	3.50	2.99	+ 0.51

Sr. No.	Head	1942-43	1941-42	Increase or decrease
10	Receipts under Motor Vehicles Act.	0'11	0'90	— 0'79
11	Tribute ...	6'50	5'84	+ 0'66
12	"B" Class Municipalities ...	0'27	0'19	+ 0'08
13	Village Panchayats ...	2'23	1'70	+ 0'53
14	Interest ...	22'72	21'71	+ 1'01
15	Railways ...	23'09	22'00	+ 1'09
16	Electric ...	1'73	3'84	— 2'11
17	Irrigation ...	0'05	0'10	— 0'05
18	Port ...	1'80	2'80	— 1'00
19	Press ...	-0'02	0'80	— 0'82
20	Furniture Factory ...	...	...	...
21	Dairy ...	0'09	0'11	— 0'02
22	Central Administration ...	0'12	0'35	— 0'23
23	Judicial ...	1'07	1'07	...
24	Police ...	0'42	0'40	+ 0'02
25	Jail ...	0'44	0'27	+ 0'17
26	Army ...	0'09	0'05	+ 0'04
27	Sanitation ...	0'55	0'45	+ 0'10
28	Medical ...	1'25	1'29	— 0'04
29	Education ...	5'21	4'99	+ 0'22
30	Agriculture ...	1'41	1'07	+ 0'34
31	Commerce, Industries, Co-operation, Statistics, etc.	0'66	0'78	— 0'12
32	Public Works ...	6'19	2'99	+ 3'20
33	Miscellaneous ...	8'65	2'70	+ 5'95
34	Profit received in conversion of Securities.	13'57	0'02	+13'55
	Total ...	363'67	280'02	+83'65

DISBURSEMENTS

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sr. No.	Head	1942-43	1941-42	Increase or decrease
1	Land Revenue ...	21'61	21'52	+ 0'09
1a	Contribution to land revenue equalisation fund.	11'24	...	+11'24
2	Taxes ...	0'64	0'39	+ 0'25
3	Forest ...	1'23	1'35	— 0'12
4	Excise ...	1'94	2'00	— 0'06
5	Opium ...	0'25	0'16	+ 0'09
6	Customs ...	0'57	0'55	+ 0'02
7	Salt ...	...	...	...
8	Stamps ...	0'57	0'58	— 0'01
9	Registration ...	0'72	0'71	+ 0'01
10	"B" Class Municipalities ...	0'21	0'19	+ 0'02
11	Village Panchayats ...	1'67	1'63	+ 0'04
12	Interest ...	6'15	7'37	— 1'22
13	Irrigation ...	0'09	0'06	+ 0'03
14	Dairy ...	0'67	0'33	+ 0'34
15	Civil List including Shri. Yuvraj Saheb's Budget.	23'00	22'93	+ 0'07
16	Central Administration ...	13'50	12'87	+ 0'63
17	Probationers' pay ...	...	0'50	— 0'60
18	Judicial ...	5'61	5'19	+ 0'42
19	Police ...	16'15	15'03	+ 1'12
20	Payment in lieu of contingent ...	3'75	3'75	...
21	Jail ...	1'66	1'11	+ 0'55
22	Army ...	22'50	22'50	...
23	Sanitation ...	1'20	1'16	+ 0'04
24	Medical ...	9'42	8'67	+ 0'75
25	Education ...	38'57	38'54	+ 0'03

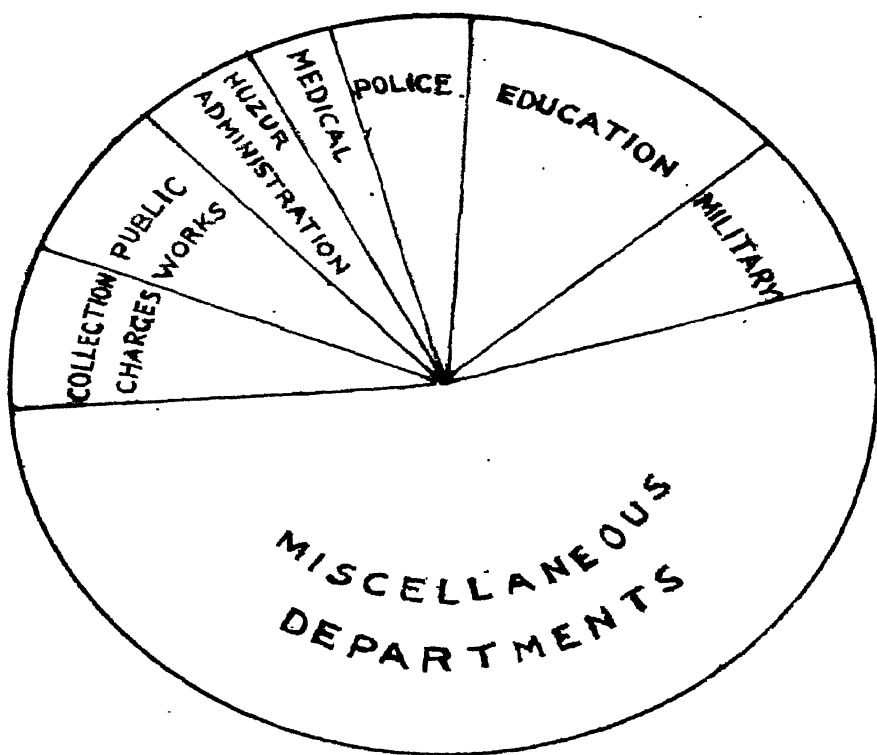
Sr. No.	Head	1942-43	1941-42	Increase or decrease
26	Agriculture ...	6'86	6'59	+ 0'27
27	Commerce and Industries ...	1'84	2'19	— 0'35
28	Statistics ...	0'19	0'19	...
29	Fisheries ...	0 16	0'15	+ 0'01
30	Co-operation ...	0'67	0'68	— 0'01
31	P. W. Department ...	20'36	30'73	— 10 37
32	Miscellaneous ...	51'69	13'92	+ 37'77
33	Loss in conversion of Securities.	...	...	...
34	Ecclesiastical ...	1 88	1'93	— 0'05
35	Nemnook Assami ...	10 27	10'23	+ 0'04
36	Pensions ...	9'71	9'33	+ 0'38
37	Subsidy to Local Boards ...	10'29	4'58	+ 5'71
38	State Ceremonials ...	...	0'14	— 0'14
39	Famine Relief ...	7'79	0'89	+ 6'90
40	Huzur Discretionary Grant ...	...	...	...
	Total ...	304'63	250'74	+ 53'89

Variations in Receipts

128. REASONS FOR VARIATIONS IN RECEIPTS — The reasons for the more important variations in receipts as compared with the preceding year, are given below:—

Head	Variation	Reasons
Land Revenue ...	+11'24 lakhs	Last year the excess over Rs. 95.07 lakhs was taken to the Land Revenue equalisation fund.
Taxes ...	+ 11'35 "	Increase in super-tax & income-tax realised this year.
Forest ...	+ 3'44 "	More receipts under timber.
Excise ...	+ 10'48 "	More receipts under duty on liquor & licence fees.
Opium ...	+ 0'50 lakh	Increased consumption.
Customs ...	+ 27'55 lakhs	Import of petroleum at Port Okha.
Salt ...	— 5'70 "	Last year two years' payment was received.

DIAGRAM SHOWIN THE PROPORTION
OF
EXPENDITURE ON VARIOUS HEADS.



Head	Variation	Reasons
Stamps ...	+ 2.50 lakhs	Due to more receipts under documentary stamps.
Registration ...	+ 0.51 lakh	More receipts under registration fees.
Receipts under Motor Vehicles Act.	— 0.79 „	Non-adjustment of receipts from the districts.
Village Panchayat ...	+ 0.53 „	Income of cattle pounds being given to village Panchayats.
Railways...	+ 1.09 „	Better traffic receipts.
Electric ...	— 2.11 lakhs	Increased cost.
Port ...	— 1.00 lakh	Fall in export.
Press ...	— 0.82 „	Non-adjustment of paper expenditure in the last year.
Public Works ...	+ 3.64 lakhs	Recoveries made from the Visnagar Municipality for the drainage work.
Miscellaneous ...	+ 5.95 „	Donations for buildings for schools & hospitals credited to this head.

Variations in expenditure

129. REASONS FOR VARIATIONS IN EXPENDITURE — The reasons for the more important variations in expenditure as compared with those of preceding year are shown below:—

Head	Variation	Reasons
Contribution to Land Revenue equalisation fund.	+ 11.24 lakhs	Opening of a new head for contribution to Land Revenue equalisation fund.
Interest ...	— 1.22 „	Non-adjustment of interest on some funds this year.
Police ...	+ 1.12 „	Additional Police force engaged during the year.
Jail ...	+ 0.55 lakh	More expenditure under dietary charges.
Medical ...	+ 0.75 „	More expenditure under purchase of medicines and instruments.
P. W. Department ...	— 10.37 lakhs	Readjustments of Vijapur Tube Well expenditure to capital head.
Miscellaneous ...	+ 37.77 „	Setting apart separate amounts for Post War Reconstruction & Attached Area development funds.
Subsidy to Local Boards	+ 5.71 „	Adjustments of donations announced by His Highness for village works.
Famine Relief ...	+ 6.90 „	Dearness allowance sanctioned to Government servants.

130. **TRIBUTE** — The following table shows the demand, collections and arrears of tribute:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of Agency	Total demand			Collections	Arrears
		Past arrears	Demand for the current year	Total		
1	Gujarat ...	0.64	1.31	1.95	1.65	0.30
2	Western India States ...	3.77	4.31	8.08	4.37	3.71
3	Rajputana ...	0.38	0.41	0.79	0.39	0.40
4	Miscellaneous ...	...	0.09	0.09	0.09	...
	Total ...	4.79	6.12	10.91	6.50	4.41

131. **LAND REVENUE EQUALISATION FUND** — The Land Revenue forms a main source of income to the State and seasonal vicissitudes have their repercussions on the State income. To offset the effects of these on the budget estimates a Land Revenue equalisation fund was created in 1939-40 by the transfer of Rs. 50 lakhs from past balances. This year Rs. 11.24 lakhs have been credited to this fund and the fund now stands at Rs. 74.51 lakhs.

Assets & Liabilities

132. **ASSETS AND LIABILITIES** — The assets and liabilities at the end of the year as compared with the previous year were as follows:—

Particulars			1942-43	1941-42
Cash Balances.—			Rs.	Rs.
	1942-43	1941-42	2,91,43,452	2,19,78,030
	Rs.	Rs.		
In current accounts with Banks.	55,05,346	33,25,650		
In Treasuries	13,08,661	10,23,113		
Fixed Deposits	2,23,29,445	1,76,29,267		
	2,91,43,452	2,19,78,030		
Loans and advances			1,08,32,893	85,70,482
Capital accounts				
1. Investments (Permanent Capital Works)			7,01,15,289	6,65,05,909
2. Securities			6,06,39,075	5,03,74,758
Total Assets			17,07,30,709	14,74,29,179
Less Liabilities			5,12,58,707	3,38,61,278
Net Assets			11,94,72,002	11,35,67,901
Net increase			59,04,101	

The net assets of the State at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 11.94 crores. Of these Rs. 5.84 crores represent capital invested in Railways, Rs. 41 lakhs in Electric Works, Rs. 49 lakhs in Okha and other ports and Rs. 27 lakhs in other concerns. The liquid assets now amount to Rs. 6.06 crores. Of these Rs. 350 lakhs are set apart for the Reserve Fund and Rs. 74.51 lakhs for the Land Revenue equalisation fund. Interest earned on the Reserve Fund is utilised for providing capital expenditure.

CHAPTER X

ADMINISTRATION OF LAND AND REVENUE

(i) General

133. SEASON — The following table gives the figures of rainfall during the year and the preceding year and the decennial average:—

District			Decennial average	1942-43	1941-42
Baroda	...	...	38·15	52·94	40·21
Mehsana	...	...	24·23	30·90	31·35
Navsari	...	...	78·11	52·51	52·51
Amreli	...	...	19·30	21·28	17·05
Okhamandal	...	...	14·82	8·80	9·72

The rainfall during the year was satisfactory and favourable in all the districts except in Okhamandal. In Okhamandal it was less than the previous year and below the decennial average. In the Baroda district there was an excess in the early part of the season which caused damages to sowings in some areas : resowings were however possible.

134. YIELD OF CROPS — The following table shows the estimated yield of staple crops in annas, sixteen annas being taken as the standard:—

District			Rice		Bajri		Juwar		Cotton	
			1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42
Baroda	...	...	9	4	9	8	10	10	11	12
Mehsana	...	...	9	3	10	12	7	9	9	9
Navsari	...	...	12	2	7	3	9	7	9	8
Amreli	...	...	11	9	11	10	9	5	9	7
Okhamandal	...	...	...	...	4	3	3	3	...	1

The effect of the favourable monsoon is reflected in the above figures.

135. PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS — The following table shows the prices of chief agricultural produce during the year (the figures represent the number of seers sold per Rupee: one seer being equal to 40 tolas):—

District	Rice		Bajri		Juwar		Pulse		Wheat	
	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42
Baroda ...	7	9	8	15	8	16	7	10	5	12
Mehsana ...	7	9	9	18	10	19	7	7	7	12
Navsari ...	8	14	10	16	8	18	8	10	6	8
Amreli ...	4	10	13	22	15	27	7	14	7	14
Okhamandal ...	3	8	10	18	11	23	5	11	7	13

The prices of all agricultural produce increased to unprecedented heights during the year. The Government made efforts to control profiteering (i) by fixation of prices under the Price Control Act and (ii) by opening a central store under Government management from which issues were made to cheap grain and fair price shops.

(ii) Land Administration

136. AREA — The following table shows the area of land in the five districts for two years:—

District	Area in Bighas	
	1942-43	1941-42
Baroda ...	21,02,736	21,02,736
Mehsana ...	33,42,333	33,42,332
Navsari ...	19,72,153	19,72,134
Amreli ...	11,67,240	11,67,240
Okhamandal ...	3,06,023	3,06,023
Total ...	88,90,485	88,90,465

The small increase in the area is due to corrections in survey papers.

137. CULTIVABLE AREA — The following table shows the total cultivable area in the five districts during the year under report:—

District	Cultivable area in bighas	Area occupied in bighas	Unoccupied cultivable area in bighas
Baroda	17,67,311	17,50,550	16,761
Mehsana	29,19,430	27,38,764	1,80,666
Navsari	11,53,985	11,42,413	11,572
Amreli	9,64,864	8,90,536	74,328
Okhamandal	2,39,802	1,65,468	74,334
Total	70,45,392	66,87,731	3,57,661

The efforts made to bring more unoccupied cultivable land under cultivation, under the "Grow More Food" campaign secured satisfactory results. The concessions granted by Government in this behalf to bring padtar lands under the plough in furtherance of the campaign have also been rewarded by encouraging results, as can be seen from the following comparative figures:—

District	Area of padtar land in bighas		Difference
	1942-43	1941-42	
Baroda	16,761	17,568	— 807
Mehsana	1,80,666	1,81,658	— 992
Navsari	11,572	11,555	+ 17
Amreli	74,328	75,548	— 1,220
Okhamandal	74,334	74,653	— 319
Total	3,57,661	3,60,982	— 3,321

138. TRANSFER OF LAND — The following table shows the transfer of land by cultivators during the year under report:—

Transferred on account of	1942-43		1941-42	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
1 Inheritance ...	10,708	1,60,617	11,124	1,65,843
2 Partition ...	163	1,829	216	3,559
3 Gifts or exchange ...	367	3,510	420	4,259
4 Sale ...	13,769	1,14,138	12,254	1,13,208
5 Other causes ...	1,823	16,786	1,562	16,394
Total ...	26,830	2,96,880	25,576	3,03,263

The number of transfers under the head of sales has increased by 1,515 and the area sold also shows an increase of 930 bighas over last year's figures. The increase was due to high prices secured for land.

139. THE RESULTS OF TRANSFERS — The following table gives particulars about land which passed into the hands of non-agriculturists and vice-versa:—

Nature of transfer	1942-43		1941-42	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
1 From agriculturists to agriculturists.	10,468	88,625	9,212	81,545
2 From agriculturists to non-agriculturists.	2,129	19,581	2,403	21,561
3 From non-agriculturists to agriculturists.	1,944	23,036	1,285	17,885
Total ...	16,079	1,46,107	14,236	1,33,681

As compared with the previous year the figures under head 2 and 3 are encouraging from the point of view of agriculturists. Looking to head 2 the number of agriculturists who parted with their lands is less and the number of bighas has also declined. On the other hand looking to head 3 more non-agriculturists have parted with their lands to the agriculturists and the number of bighas has also increased. This indicates that the economic condition of the agriculturists has steadily improved: but the smaller khatedar is selling his lands at high profit to the larger holders.

(iii) Collection of Revenues

140. LAND REVENUE—The following table gives the figures of demand and realisation of land revenue proper during the year:—

(The figures are in lakhs of rupees)

District	1942-43			1941-42		
	Demand	Realisation	Percentage	Demand	Realisation	Percentage
Baroda ...	38·65	38·20	98·9	39·25	38·42	97·9
Mehsana ...	31·22	30·63	98·1	31·89	30·51	95·6
Navsari ...	16·53	16·41	99·3	16·66	15·88	99·6
Amreli ...	8·04	7·86	97·8	8·09	7·24	98·7
Okhamandal ...	0·62	0·59	95·2	0·50	0·28	56·0
Total ..	95·06	93·69	98·6	96·39	92·33	96·0

The good yield of crops and high prices account for the satisfactory realisation of land revenue assessment, local cess and all taxes. Past arrears of land revenue dues have been recovered to the extent of 30% and the tagavi dues to the extent of 79%.

141. LOCAL CESS—The figures of demand and realisations of local cess during the year were as follows as compared with the preceding year:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	1942-43			1941-42		
	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.	Percentage	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.	Percentage
Baroda ...	2·85	2·82	98·7	2·82	2·75	97·6
Mehsana ...	2·26	2·21	98·1	2·25	2·19	97·2
Navsari ...	1·81	1·80	99·6	1·73	1·72	99·2
Amreli ...	0·66	0·65	99·0	0·63	0·63	99·0
Okhamandal ...	0·03	0·03	93·1	0·05	0·02	47·1
Total ...	7·61	7·51	98·8	7·48	7·31	97·6

142. MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE — The following table shows the demand and realisation of miscellaneous revenue other than land revenue as compared with the preceding year:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	1942-43		1941-42	
	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.
Baroda	1.55	1.53	0.75	0.74
Mehsana	1.46	1.40	1.21	1.12
Navsari	0.61	0.60	0.41	0.39
Amreli	0.48	0.47	0.25	0.23
Okhamandal	0.03	0.03	0.57	0.57
Total	4.13	4.03	3.19	3.05

143. ARREARS — The following table gives the figures of past arrears, recoveries and sums written off during the year:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	Total arrears at the beginning of 1942-43	Recovered or written off during 1942-43	Balance at the end of 1942-43
Baroda	3.15	1.41	1.75
Mehsana	22.27	7.24	15.07
Navsari	1.12	0.97	0.15
Amreli	3.55	2.02	1.54
Okhamandal	0.46	0.13	0.33
Total	30.55	11.77	18.84

144. TAGAVI — The following table gives the comparative figures of demand and realisation of the instalments of Tagavi loans advanced by Government:—

(Figures are in lakhs of rupees)

District	1942-43		1941-42	
	Demand	Realisation	Demand	Realisation
Baroda	0.25	0.16	0.76	0.40
Mehsana	3.01	2.43	3.93	3.10
Navsari	0.53	0.43	0.24	0.23
Amreli	1.32	1.30	...	0.11
Okhamandal	0.48	0.05	0.36	0.05
Total	5.59	4.37	5.29	3.89

145. PURPOSE OF TAGAVI LOANS —The following table shows the purpose and amount of tagavi loans advanced during the year:—

District	Purpose of loans		
	Improvement of land	Maintenance of men and cattle including purchase of cattle, seeds—manures and building materials	Total
Baroda ...	1,000	7,490	8,490
Mehsana ...	10,900	3,012	13,912
Navsari ...	5,000	2,768	7,768
Amreli ...	1,975	2,901	4,876
Okhamandal ...	...	9,957	9,957
Total ...	18,875	26,128	45,003

146. COERCIVE MEASURES —The following table shows the coercive measures taken during the year under report :—

Nature of the measures					1942-43	1941-42
1	Notices	...	...	...	1,025	4,150
2	Attachment of Sarkari land...	...	...	...	2,344	4,587
3	Attachment of Barkhali land	...	...	...	2	8
4	Sale of land	...	...	...	310	401
5	Cases in which land was declared Padtar for want of bidders.				5	51
6	Land made Kha sa	...	...	...
	(1) Sarkari	...	...	...	40	...
	(2) Barkhali	...	...	...	...	4
7	Sale of immovable property other than land				43	105
8	Sale of movable property				7	55
9	Arrest warrants issued				333	804
10	Fines				225	313
	Total				4,334	10,478

There is a marked decrease in coercive measures. The rise in the prices of agricultural produce has enabled the khatedars to pay up their land revenue dues in time.

A sum of Rs. 10,000 was distributed as free gift to poor people affected by the floods in Baroda City and adjoining areas, due to the heavy rains in the early part of the year.

148. EXTENSION OF VILLAGE SITE TO REMOVE CONGESTION — Under Government orders it has been laid down that where the village-site area falls short of 30 bighas for a population of 700 or 43 bighas for 1,000, the Gamthan should be held to be insufficient. In such villages suitable areas for expansion should be selected, acquired and divided into convenient plots. No site-rent should be charged for the first three years; half the rent should be charged for the next five years and full rent should be charged after eight years.

Under this scheme ten villages are selected for gamthan extension every year. During the year under report 5 villages in the Baroda district, 4 in the Mehsana district and 1 in the Amreli district were selected for this purpose and measures were in progress.

149. IRRIGATION FACILITIES — Besides tagavi, which is given mostly for developing irrigation facilities special measures are adopted to encourage agriculturists to sink wells. Under a scheme recently sanctioned agriculturists may have wells sunk in their khata land at Government expense if they agree to pay a water rate of Re. 1 per bigha for the lands irrigated by such wells. The cost of unsuccessful wells under this scheme is borne by the Government. Again the khatedar is allowed to acquire the ownership of the well on payment of the cost in ten instalments. This scheme is in operation in selected villages of the Mehsana district. During the year 14 new applications for construction of wells were received and 11 were pending from the previous year. Out of these 25 wells, 11 wells have been completed at a total cost of Rs. 21,333 and 14 are under construction. Since the inauguration of this scheme 69 wells have been constructed at a total cost of Rs. 1,05,460 for irrigating 712 bighas.

150. HEALTH EXHIBITION AND BABY SHOWS — Health Exhibitions and Baby Shows were held at 3 places in the Amreli district: (1) Ganeshgad (Damnagar taluka), (2) Tantania (Khamba taluka) and (3) Devla (Dhari taluka). A large number of people visited the shows.

In the Baroda district one Health Exhibition and Baby Show was organised at Sankal (Tilakwada taluka). A Panchayat Week was celebrated at Petlad and the village of Gambhira was awarded a shield for cleanliness during the year under report.

151. ESTATES UNDER MANAGEMENT — The number of estates under management was 367 as against 355 in the previous year. Of these 78 were under the Guardian and Wards Act, 5 to secure Government loans, 16 for arrears of revenue, 8 on account of disputes among

holders, 161 owing to mismanagement of temples, 8 pending mutation of names, 6 to protect Government shares and 85 for other reasons.

Of these 34 have been under management for less than one year, 108 for 1 to 4 years, 110 for more than five years, 56 for more than ten years and 59 for more than 15 years.

The total demand of these estates was Rs. 8 lakhs including Rs. 3.42 lakhs arrears. The collections amounted to Rs. 4.85 lakhs and the arrears at the end of the year were Rs. 3.15 lakhs.

Income-tax

152. INCOME TAX —In 1939, the revised Income-Tax Act came into operation. Under it the taxable minimum income was raised from Rs. 750 to Rs. 2,000 and a graduated scale of tax was introduced.

During the year under report, notices, calling for returns of income were issued in 19,197 cases; returns were received in 16,163 cases, out of which 877 were accepted as correct. Accounts were called for in 16,595 cases, and the number of cases wherein accounts were produced was 15,286. The total number of persons assessed to tax was 10,257 including 185 companies and 87 registered firms.

The net demand of Income-tax during the year under report was Rs. 21.19 lakhs as against Rs. 12.13 lakhs in the preceding year. Out of this Rs. 19.35 lakhs were realised. The demand of super-tax at a flat rate of one anna in the rupee on every rupee of income exceeding Rs. one lakh, amounted to Rs. 4.16 lakhs as against Rs. 0.83 lakh in the preceding year. Practically the whole amount was realised during the year.

Thus the demand of income-tax and super-tax for 1942-43 amounted to Rs. 25.35 lakhs. The amount of arrears at the end of 1941-42 was Rs. 2.43 lakhs. The total demand including these arrears, therefore, amounted to Rs. 27.78 lakhs out of which Rs. 23.50 lakhs were realised during the year, leaving a balance of Rs. 4.28 lakhs at the end of the year.

153. ABOLITION OF PILGRIMAGE TAXES AT BEYT —The Government abolished the taxes levied on pilgrims to Beyt and Dwarka Devasthans.

Excise

154. SOURCES OF REVENUE — The principal sources of the Excise revenue are

- (1) manufacture and sale of country liquor and
- (2) sale of foreign liquor, spirits, spirituous preparations, toddy and intoxicating and poisonous drugs.

License fee, duty and tree tax are the main items of the revenue from these sources.

155. DISTILLING CONTRACTS — The system for the manufacture and supply of country liquor in the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts continued to be the same as in the previous year viz., contracts distilling and separate shop system. In the Amreli district, including the Okhamandal taluka, the district monopoly system prevailed. The contracts for the manufacture and supply of country liquor for the Baroda and Mehsana districts and that for the Navsari district, have been given for five years from the 1st April 1941 to Messrs. The Alembic Chemical Works Company Limited, Baroda and Messrs. Gyara and Daboo respectively.

As the farm for the manufacture and retail vend of country liquor in the Amreli district (including Okhamandal) given to Messrs. Dorabjee Navroji and Sorabji Adarji and Co., of Kodinar expired on the 31st March 1943, the contract was renewed to them for a further period of three years.

156. RETAIL SALE OF COUNTRY LIQUOR IN THE BARODA, MEHSANA AND NAVSARI DISTRICTS — As the lease of the individual country liquor shops in the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts expired by the end of March 1943, the shops in these districts were auctioned for a period of one year from the 1st April 1943. Thirty three shops on the Mewasi borders and ten shops on the Panch Mahal borders in the Baroda district and thirty three shops in the Mehsana district on the Mahi Kantha Agency borders were leased without auction with fixed selling prices. In the fourteen kasba shops of the Mehsana district, the sale of liquor at fixed prices in sealed bottles was continued. The total number of country liquor shops was 594 as against 597 in the previous year.

157. CO-OPERATION WITH BOMBAY GOVERNMENT — To co-operate with the Bombay Government in their scheme of prohibition and dry areas, the Government continued the following measures adopted in previous years :—

- (i) in the Baroda district, rationing of ten shops within three miles of the Jambusar-Waghra dry area;
- (ii) in the Mehsana district, rationing of 28 shops including the Kalol and Dehgam Kasba shops;
- (iii) in the Navsari district, rationing of six shops situated on the Vasda - Andhatri borders and of fifty shops on the borders of Bardoli, Valod, Broach and Ankleshwar, besides providing a shop-free-belt.

There was no restriction on selling prices except that shopkeepers were not allowed to sell liquor below the fixed minimum made up of duty and cost price.

158. **EXCISE REVENUE** — The excise revenue amounted to Rs. 41.94 lakhs as against Rs. 30.55 lakhs in the previous year. Of this amount Rs. 32.61 lakhs were from country liquor, Rs. 1.95 lakhs from foreign liquor, Rs. 5.78 lakhs from toddy, Rs. 0.93 lakh from intoxicating and poisonous drugs and Rs. 0.67 lakh from miscellaneous receipts. The Navsari district yielded Rs. 19.75 lakhs, the Baroda district Rs. 17.68 lakhs, the Mehsana district Rs. 4.09 lakhs, the Amreli and Okhamandal Rs. 0.42 lakh. The increase is due to larger consumption and keen competition at the auctions of the country liquor shops in the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts and to larger number of toddy trees tapped in the Navsari district.

159. **OFFENCES** — The number of offences decreased from 771 to 297. This large decrease is partly due to the scarcity of mahura.

Opium

160. **SOURCES OF REVENUE** — The State has a monopoly for the manufacture of opium on the "Bengal System". The issue rate of opium at the Government depots continued to be Rs. 37-8-0 per seer of forty tolas. Besides this a license fee is charged on a scale graduated according to sales, increasing from Rs. 7 to Rs. 10 per seer.

The profit on opium issued to the licensed vendors and the license fee form the main sources of the opium revenue.

161. **POPPY CULTIVATION** — Poppy is cultivated in Sidhpur, Visnagar and Kheralu talukas of the Mehsana district. Applications for permission to cultivate poppy were received from 33 villages and permits were issued for 733.8 bighas as against 410.95 bighas in the preceding year. The juice tendered by the cultivators was 91 maunds, 34 seers and 30 tolas as against 48 maunds, 32 seers and 20 tolas in the last year. The increase was due to the larger area cultivated. The cultivators are required to sell the whole of the produce to the Government. They are paid Rs. 5 per seer for the best quality of juice.

162. **ISSUE FROM THE FACTORY AND REVENUE** — During the year, 7,490 seers of opium were sent to the depots from the opium factory as against 6,020 in the preceding year.

The profit to the State from the sale of opium was Rs. 2.41 lakhs as against Rs. 1.96 lakhs in the preceding year. The total amount of sale price and license fee was Rs. 2.94 lakhs and the cost of production was Rs. 0.53 lakh.

Customs and Port Dues

163. SOURCES OF REVENUE — The following table shows the revenue obtained from

- (a) sea customs and port dues in the Amreli and Okhamandal districts,
- (b) protective customs in the Mehsana, Amreli and Okhamandal districts,
- (c) the customs duties at Chandod and
- (d) 'Armar cess' in the Navsari district.

District	Year	
	1942-43	1941-42
Baroda	1,359	2,130
Mehsana	5,109	6,749
Navsari	5,251	5,344
Amreli	24,420	32,960
Okhamandal Port dues	4,75,904	} 30,20,948
„ Customs	38,59,960	
Total	43,72,003	30,68,131

The increase of Rs. 13.04 lakhs is due to an increase in customs revenue at Port Okha.

The Government of India have agreed to refund to the State the customs duty realised at the Ports of Billimora and Navsari after deducting the cost of collection. In the year under report as in the previous five years, the cost of collection exceeded the amount of duty collected and the State did not get any refund.

Protective duties were continued in the Mehsana and Amreli districts. The income was Rs. 5,109 in the Mehsana district and Rs. 4,541 in the Amreli district and the expenditure on the collection was Rs. 31,541 and Rs. 15,436 respectively.

Excise Duty on Matches

164. DEMAND, COLLECTION AND ARREARS — The following table gives the demand, collection and arrears of the excise revenue on matches;—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Year	Arrears at the end of the preceding year	Demand	Total	Collection	Arrears
1942-43	2.34	3.95	6.29	5.82	0.47
1941-42	0.62	10.02	10.64	8.30	2.34

The Baroda Government received Rs. 2,26,708 as their share from the common pool of the match excise duty for the year 1941-42. The allocation for the year 1942-43 had not been received from the Government of India by the end of the year.

Excise Duty on Sugar

165. EXCISE DUTY ON SUGAR — The Gandevi Sugar Works and Distillery Company Limited, Gandevi is the only sugar factory in the State. It manufactured 13,473 cwts. 61-5/7 lbs. of sugar.

The State levied an excise duty on sugar at the rate of Rs. 3 per cwt., during the year under report. The duty levied amounted to Rs. 40,421 as against Rs. 80,493 in the preceding year.

Petroleum

166. LICENCES ISSUED FOR THE IMPORT ETC., OF PETROLEUM — Under the Petroleum Act, 135 licences for the import, transport and storage of petroleum were issued during the year and Rs. 3,486 were realised as licence fee.

167. PERMITS GIVEN FOR STORAGE OF CARBIDE — Under the Carbide of Calcium Rules, 6 permits for the storage of carbide were given during the year and Rs. 32 realised as licence fee.

Salt

168. SALT ARRANGEMENTS — The salt arrangements for Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts continued to be the same as in the previous years. In the Kodinar taluka, the salt monopoly contract given for three years from 1-8-1941, for the annual amount of Rs. 1,732, continued. Out of 25,640 maunds of salt (including the balance of 4,223 of the last year) collected during the year from natural deposits, 19,520 maunds were consumed during the year, leaving a balance of 6,120 maunds.

In the Okhamandal the right to collect salt in twelve beds, continued with the Tata Chemicals Company Limited, Mithapur. The

Company exported 24,26,872 maunds to Bengal as against 16,52,560 maunds in the preceding year.

169. SHARE OF BARODA GOVERNMENT IN THE DUTY ON SALT — The Baroda Government received from the Government of India Rs. 5.68 lakhs for 1942-43 on account of duty on salt consumed in the Gujerat possessions of the State.

170. SUPPLY OF DENATURED SALT FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES — Denatured salt was supplied for agricultural purposes in the Navsari district. Four permits were issued to import 271 Bengal maunds of salt.

Cotton Transport .

171. OPERATION OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT — To prevent the entry of inferior cotton from the neighbouring territories into the State, the Cotton Transport Act has been applied to the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts. Four check stations were maintained on the Khandesh border of the Songhad taluka and two check stations on the Surat border of the Mangrol and Kamrej talukas in the Navsari district. No check stations were considered necessary in other districts.

172. INTRODUCTION OF TOBACCO EXCISE DUTY — The Indian Tobacco Excise Duty Act and Rules, 1943, were applied to the Baroda State from the 1st April 1943. A separate branch under the Excise Commissioner was opened for this work from 1-5-1943. The rate of duty varies from one anna per lb. to Rs. 1-12-0 per lb. of the tobacco meant for use for different purposes. For this purpose tobacco is divided into three classes, viz. (1) Virginia tobacco, (2) Country tobacco, and (3) Stalks stems and other refuse. Virginia tobacco is further sub-divided into two classes, i. e. (a) flue-cured and (b) air-cured.

173. LICENCES FOR DEALING IN TOBACCO — According to the tobacco Excise Duty Act, 1943, all persons dealing in tobacco have to take out licences. There are five kinds of licences, viz.,

- (1) Licence for curing tobacco
- (2) Licence for the wholesale trade
- (3) Licence to work as broker or commission agent
- (4) Licence to manufacture tobacco
- (5) Licence for private bonded warehouses.

The scale of licence fee varies from one rupee to hundred rupees and is collected in the form of court fee stamps.

174. LICENCE FEE REVENUE — The following table shows the number of different kinds of licences issued and licence fees realised thereon in the form of court fee stamps during year ended July 1943:—

Kind of licence	No. of licences issued	Licence fee realised
Curers' licences	52	332-0-0
Wholesale trade licences	1,708	12,775-0-0
Licences for broker or commission agent	453	4,145-0-0
Manufacturer's licences	503	31-0-0
Licences for private bonded warehouses	937	2,996-0-0
Total	3,653	20,279-0-0

175. DUTY REVENUE — The following table shows the amount of tobacco issued for consumption in the State and exported outside on payment of duty during the period ended July 1943:—

Kind of tobacco	Quantities in Bengal mds.		Amount of duty realised on tobacco	
	Issued for consumption in the State	Exported outside the State	Issued for consumption in the State	Exported outside the State
Virginia tobacco ... ..	...	541	...	7,859
Country tobacco				
(a) for manufacture into				
(i) biris	5,189	5,624	1,60,198	1,67,089
(ii) snuff	584	51	17,997	1,582
(iii) hookas tobacco	3,264	2,439	37,008	11,925
(iv) chewing tobacco	1,555	7,328	14,243	32,629
Stalks, stem and other refuse of tobacco.	256	619	2,813	4,192
Total	10,848	16,602	2,32,259	2,25,276

Stamps

176. REVENUE — The following table shows the revenue derived from the sale of Stamps:—

Sources of Income	1942-43	1941-42
Sale of court fee Stamps	5,46,177	5,45,459
Sale of non-judicial stamps	12,47,776	9,86,021
Special	2,936	3,268
Miscellaneous receipts	14,557	12,334
	18,11,446	15,47,082
Less sum refunded	1,00,932	87,017
Net total Income	17,10,514	14,60,065

177. EXPENDITURE — The following statement shows the expenditure incurred under the head of Stamps:—

Year	Rupees
1942-43	57,069
1941-42	58,362

178. CAUSES OF VARIATION — The net total income under this head shows an increase of Rs. 2,50,445. The sale of judicial stamps has increased by Rs. 718 and that of non-judicial stamps by Rs. 2,61,755. The increase is mainly due to the increased number of documents registered in registration offices.

CHAPTER XI

THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE WAR AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

In the administration report for the year 1941-42 the effects of the war on the economic life of the State were described and the conclusions drawn were (i) that agriculturists in the State have largely benefited by the high prices and (ii) that it pays them to cultivate foodgrains and only the higher grade cotton. These conclusions still hold good.

Agriculture

179. COTTON — In the Navsari district the growing of 1027 A. L. F. has proved distinctly advantageous to agriculturists. The demand for staple cotton secured premiums of over Rs. 400 over Broach. The position is illustrated by the following figures :—

Prices secured for 1027 A. L. F.

Year	Prices in Rupees
1938	... 190 to 210 per khandi.
1939	... 185 to 200 "
1940	... 290 to 310 "
1941	... 330 to 340 "
1942	... 295 to 340 "
1943	... 754 to 881 "

Prices secured for Broach (A Fair Staple)

Year	Prices in Rupees
1938	... 150 per khandi.
1939	... 150 "
1940	... 200 "
1941	... 235 "
1942	... 190 "
1943	... 400 "

As a part of a policy laid down some years ago, the Government ordered that this year the Baroda district should grow only B. D. 8

cotton. Under this, the return to the cotton grower will be high, as good premiums are secured by these varieties. The Government have agreed to cotton control on the same lines as in British India.

180. TOBACCO — Country tobacco is the specialised crop of Petlad and Bhadrans areas. This crop, which was hit by the war last year, has shown appreciable recovery, the selling price being as high as Rs. 16.

181. OIL SEEDS — The prices of oil seeds as recorded by the Marketing Officer are as below :—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Groundnut	1- 8- 0	1- 6- 0	1- 4- 0	1- 6- 0	2- 0- 0	5-12- 0
Castor	1-12- 0	4- 0- 0	2- 4- 0	2- 8- 0	3- 2- 0	6- 4- 0

The figures indicate a marked rise over last year's prices.

182. SUGARCANE CROP AND SUGAR AND GUL — The prices of gul went up sharply. Sugar prices are strictly controlled, though the cultivator who grew cane at Gandevi got Re. 0-10-0 a maund as against Re. 0-7-3 in 1942, and Re. 0-4-9 in 1938. There is no prospect of a decline in sugar prices and the cane prices are expected to be maintained at a good level after allowing for increased cost of production.

183. CEREALS — The shortage of these is well known and is reflected in prices as shown below :—

Average prices over four districts per Bengal maund—Rupees.

Percentage on 1938	1943 Rs.		1938	1942	Percentage on 1938
224%	18	Rice	5- 9- 0	9- 4- 0	52%
219%	15	Wheat	4- 7- 0	8- 1- 0	81%
146%	8	Juwar	3- 4- 0	4- 7- 0	37%
119%	8-12- 0	Bajra	4- 0- 0	4-15- 0	37%
225%	13	Gram	3-15- 0	3-15- 0	71%
116%	17	Tur (dal)	6- 8- 0	10-11- 0	64%

The increase in prices has been nearly as large as in cotton.

To sum up the prosperity of agriculturists increased. The additional income derived was used in meeting the increased cost of living, paying Government dues: including arrears, repayment of debts, purchase of additional lands and investment in savings banks, defence bonds etc.

The Government are most anxious that the profits due to the high prices which the agriculturists now receive should be saved to meet their needs in the difficult years that will come after the war. The Government have passed therefore special order to stimulate savings by increasing the number of savings banks and thrift societies. The Government increased the number of savings banks from 9 in 1937-38 to 22 and the deposits have risen from Rs. 5.73 to Rs. 23.76 lakhs. This however is only a fraction of what ought to come to the banks.

Industries

184. GENERAL — Industries are working to full capacity first to meet the wartime demands of defence services and of the civilian population and to fill the gaps created by the difficulty and interruption of imports. Existing industries have expanded and new ones have arisen.

185. INDUSTRIES IN WARTIME — The textile industry occupies the first rank among the industries of the State. Its growth in recent years is seen from the following figures :—

Year	Capital employed (approximate)	Looms	Spindles	Persons employed	Yarn produced lbs. lakh
1927-28	123	2,505	177084	6,250	153
1936-37	290	6,205	297704	15,298	288
1937-38	304	6,771	324000	18,600	358
1938-39	320	6,914	334500	19,000	344
1939-40	327	7,110	332197	20,199	332
1940-41	384	6,874	325732	22,726	398
1941-42	380	6,932	328232	24,713	431
1942-43	504	6,927	332208	23,982	342

All the Cotton Mills in the State are engaged on Government orders and have benefited by the war although the prices of fuel, accessories, chemicals and wages have gone up. In 1942-43 about 80% of the production was earmarked for Government orders. The Dinesh Mills, the only woolen mill in the State is entirely on Government contracts. The Dye Works manufactured sulphuric acid in fair quantities. Similarly the Cement Factory at Dwarka has expanded its production from 80,000 tons in 1938 to about 2,00,000 tons in 1943. Chemical industry has received impetus on account of war and new Chemical factories are either on progress or are under negotiations. The Alambic Chemical Works are manufacturing drugs and medicines

for which there are orders from Government of India also. They have also started manufacture of glass bottles for their own needs. The Tata Chemicals have already started producing bleaching powder, liquid chlorine, potassium bromide, caustic soda etc. The Periclase (magnesium oxide) plant and the Soda Ash plant are expected to commence work very soon. Large and small bobbin factories have cropped up as their import has become difficult. A dry cell factory has also been established in Baroda.

186. THE SMALLER INDUSTRIES IN THE STATE—These are also making their contribution to war effort and benefiting by war orders. Such industries have received orders for over Rs. 12 lakhs from the Supply department.

187. LABOUR — The relations between the employers and labour have been on the whole harmonious and no major disputes are reported. Liberal wages and bonuses have been given in all the factories. There has been a marked increase in the employment of labour. The number of operatives has risen from 41,079 in 1941-42 to 43,048 in 1942-43. To ensure that labourers save as much as they can of the dearness and other allowances now paid, efforts are being made to organise co-operative credit and thrift societies and savings banks with the co-operation of the employers. Four mills have started such societies and three more have got their societies registered recently. The Government have placed two officers on special duty to spread the Savings movement among labourers and would welcome the co-operation of employers in making this thrift movement a real success.

The special officers have organised 19 labourers' Co-operative societies with 13,960 members. 13 of these have commenced work and the monthly savings invested in the societies come to a fair proportion of the earnings of the members.

188. COMMERCE — The War and the Import and Export restrictions have adversely affected the shipping and trade at Port Okha. Even though the total cargo handled shows an increase, both in weight and value, as compared with the previous year, the major part of it was military and War cargo, chiefly cement and petroleum. Further details are given in the chapter on "Commerce".

The number of import licences was 77 and the value of the goods to be imported was Rs. 1,59,078.

189. COTTON CLOTH AND YARN CONTROL — The Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order as applied in British India has also been promulgated in the State with suitable modifications.

Ex-mill selling prices and maximum retail prices have been fixed and notified for standard varieties of cloth and yarn and vigilance is kept with a view to see that the buyers get cloth at these prices,

As a corollary to the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order the Baroda Government have also introduced Cotton Cloth Dealers' Licencing Order 1943 and powers of issuing licences are delegated to the Director of Commerce for the city of Baroda and to the First class District Magistrate for each district concerned. As the last date for submitting the applications has expired the work of issuing licences is on hand.

Besides the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order and the Cotton Cloth Dealers' Licencing Order various other control orders effecting the textile industry like (1) Starch, (2) Bobbins, (3) Shuttles, (4) Ring Travellers and (5) Sizing Control have also been promulgated in the State and these orders are administered by the Department of Commerce and Industries.

190. GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN — The Baroda State is a deficit area in regard to foodgrains and it is essential in the public interests that the production of food crops should be increased to the maximum possible limit so that the dependence on outside supplies may be reduced. The importance, therefore, of the campaign organised by the Government for growing more food crops cannot be overestimated. The measures adopted by Government with this end in view fall into two classes.

- (a) *Obligatory* :— The Government have prescribed a minimum area in every part of the State for the growing of food crops. They desire that the advantage gained in the last season by a shift-over from cotton crop to food crop should not be lost. With this end in view they have directed that in the Mehsana and the Amreli districts the percentage of the area under food crop shall be maintained with a slightly further reduction in the area under cotton in Kalol, Dehgam and Attarsumba in the Mehsana district. In the Baroda and Navsari districts the area under cotton for the current year has been adjusted in relation to that of food crops and minimum percentages of food crops to be grown on each holding have been fixed for each mahal and made obligatory. The Government have continued the concession, namely, 25% reduction in the assessment for a shift-over from cotton effected as during the last season and have extended it to all additional areas switched over from cotton to food crop in the current season. The aim at the same time is to ensure that the economic position of the agriculturists is not suddenly dislocated by too drastic a curtailment of the area under cotton and that the supply of cotton needed by the mills is not appreciably reduced. It has, therefore, been decided to make compulsory in the Baroda district (with the exception of Petlad and Bhadran) better

varieties of cotton—B. D. 8, B. 9 and 1027 A. L. F. which obtain a high premia in the market.

- (b) *Concessional*:— The Government have announced concessions in assessment for a fixed period, the grant of cash rewards and tagavi, for bringing padtar and kharaba lands and lands under rough grass under cultivation of food crops.

Other important features are

- (a) a grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for supply of cotton seeds to growers in the Baroda and Navsari districts,
- (b) a grant of Rs. 1,10,000 for the purchase and preparation of cake manure to be supplied at concession rates,
- (c) subsidy to individual or groups of khatedars for the preparation of compost from waste vegetable matter,
- (d) grant of Rs. 10,000 for growing vegetables which will be considered food crops,
- (e) grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for the purchase and supply of wheat seeds,
- (f) subsidy of Rs. 1 lakh for supplying better agricultural implements,
- (g) concessions in the water rates for water utilised in growing food crop, and, in particular, irrigation from Government wells and non-Himayat tanks, free,
- (h) repairs to Himayat tanks and drilling and blasting wells in certain areas for ensuring proper irrigation facilities.

The Government have also allotted rupees nine lakhs for subsidies for well sinking and for a scheme for the digging of wells by the Government for protecting crops without expecting a return on the outlay.

The statement below shows what has been achieved in the direction of shift-over to food crops from non-food crops :—

No.	District	Acres 1942-43	Acres 1941-42	Decrease in % over 1941-42
1	Baroda ..	3,41,183	4,02,876	-15'30
2	Navsari ...	1,99,629	2,57,590	-22'31
3	Mehsana ...	1,00,893	1,29,848	-22'33
4	Amreli ...	45,961	91,378	-49'70
	Total ...	6,87,666	8,81,692	-22'09

It will be seen that the reduction is 1,94,026 acres in place of 1,31,000 we set out to secure. There was reduction in tobacco and oil seed areas also, resulting in the improvement of food crop statistics by an increase of 2,00,000 acres over last year, i. e. 25 per cent more than we set out to do. This adds to our home supply of food grains.

191. INFLATION—STEPS TAKEN TO CHECK IT — A most disquieting feature is the rise in prices of necessities of life, which is causing much hardship. The Government of India have taken action in various directions, for checking inflation. In the State itself ordinances have been issued prohibiting issues of capital, floatation of new companies, etc., without special sanction : we have also issued the "Cotton (Forward Contracts and Options Prohibition) Order," and the Oilseeds (Forward Contracts Prohibition) Order " as in British India and prohibited forward contracts and options in bullion. Recently again arrangements have been made for levying in the State the equivalent of the Excess profits tax in British India and funding the amounts so collected, to be returned one year after the war for the benefit of the industry or business.

192. SAVINGS CAMPAIGN — A campaign for stimulating investments in defence bonds and loans and other Government of India securities was begun in 1940. The war committee has a special sub-committee for war loans and war gifts and this sub-committee with the help of the propaganda committee issue leaflets and organise meetings all over the State with this end in view. District and taluka officers, while touring, explained to the people the ways in which savings could be effected and invested. A special intensive publicity campaign was undertaken during the year 1942. A pamphlet explaining to the people the necessity for savings and the benefits that would accrue to them by investing them in post office savings banks, defence loans and certificates etc. was prepared and thousands of copies of it were distributed throughout the State and special arrangements were made to put it in the hands of labourers by sending them out to employers through the department of Industries.

In 1943, agricultural prices showed a decided rise and the wages of labourers increased. In this year, the Government passed a special order regarding savings banks and thrift societies for the benefit of labour and other class. The order ran as follows :—"The labouring classes in towns, especially in textile mills and other large works, are now in receipt of dearness allowance, bonuses and other payments on a generous scale. These additional payments will be discontinued when the war conditions cease. At that stage there will be acute discontentment if we allow the additional payments now received to be frittered away on drink etc. The object, therefore, is to see that at least half of the additional emoluments are saved by every labourer. Savings banks and thrift societies should be formed

for this purpose whichever may be more acceptable to the labour." The order went on to assure labour that this was not a scheme promoted by the mill-owners but that the Government had organised committees for their welfare and that Government accepted responsibility for the moneys deposited and the interest due. In this order, stress was also laid on the high prices secured by agricultural produce and the need for diverting the savings of agriculturists due to high prices to the savings banks already opened by the Government for that purpose or to the Government of India war loans, postal certificates. In commending the scheme to officers the order desired all concerned that "no post war scheme for the welfare of the agriculturists can be successful if the moneys now received by them are frittered away on unproductive purposes".

The Government ordered an increase in the number of savings banks. From 9 in 1937-38 their number rose to 22 in 1942 and have now reached 38. The Government have placed two officers on special duty to spread the movement among labourers. These have organised and registered 19 labourers' societies in the 17 mills of the State. Out of these 19 societies, 13 have already commenced work and the membership has risen to about 13,960 with a total collection amounting to Rs. 1,79,000. Special facilities are afforded to the villagers with regard to the deposits in these savings banks. They can hand over their savings to patels and talaties of villages who after giving them "provisional receipts" for the amounts received, take them to the mahals, thus saving the villagers the trouble of going to the mahal to deposit amounts.

Civil supplies

Food position in the State

193. GENERAL — The State is a deficit area; the Government of India allotted supplies of wheat and rice from outside.

Within the State itself, the surpluses of wheat and millets available in Mehsana and Amreli districts were made available in the Baroda and Navsari districts. Rice was in deficit and people had to substitute other grains for it.

The Government have established food committees in urban as well as rural areas and special officers have been appointed under the Director of Civil Supplies whose main duty is to make foodgrains in surplus areas available for the deficit areas. The rising prices are causing hardship. Price Control committees composed of representatives of all interests including consumers have been established throughout the State.

194. BARODA CITY — Baroda City is dealt with as a special area for foodgrains supply. A scheme of cheap grain shops has been sanctioned for the benefit of Government servants drawing salary up to

Rs. 100 a month. These shops sell grains to registered card holders. The following statement shows the number of cheap grain shops, the number of card holders, the total number of persons served by these shops, the quantity of grains sold and their value:—

No. of shops	Number of card holders	Number including families of card holders	Grains sold and price	
			Bengal Maunds	Price Rs.
22	13,061	52,460	65,904	8,20,372

It will be seen that out of the total population of about 1,53,000 in the Baroda City 52,460 persons are served by the cheap grain shops. Besides these the Government have opened fair price shops to prevent retail sellers charging exorbitant rates and the emergence of black markets. The following statement shows the number of fair price shops in the city and the number of persons served by them:—

No. of shops	Number of card holders	Number including families of card holders	Grains sold and price	
			Bengal Maunds	Price Rs.
11	8,912	48,036	11,805	1,47,025

Thus the cheap grain and fair price shops supply 1,03,940 persons or roughly two-thirds of the population of the city. A central grain store has been started under the Suba, Baroda, in order that supplies may be regularly available to these shops.

195. OUTSIDE AREAS — The Government and private agencies have opened cheap grain shops outside Baroda City.

Government shops

District	Number of Govt. shops	Number of members of families of card holders
Baroda ...	3	43,673
Mehsana ...	5	2,16,246
Navsari ...	17	94,249

Private shops

District	Number of private shops	Number of members of families of card holders
Baroda ...	37	1,62,234
Mehsana ...	25	1,25,978
Navsari ...	16	44,785

196. EMPLOYERS' SHOPS — Under the Grainstuffs (Factories) Order, 1943 it was made obligatory on the employers of every factory to open a grain shop at or near the place of employment for supply of foodstuffs to the employees in the factory and their dependents.

The factory grain shops supplied foodstuffs to the employees and their dependents numbering 1,12,399 at the rates published in the Adhyapatrika from time to time.

197. QUOTA OF SUGAR — The quota provisionally fixed by the Sugar Controller for the State was 10,000 tons for the year beginning 1st December 1942. This was subsequently raised to 14,700 tons. Of this 13,500 tons were actually received.

A scheme of rationing of sugar was introduced in the State from February 1943.

The rates at which sugar was supplied to the wholesale dealers and retailers were fixed according to the scheme of the Sugar Controller for India. The rates for wholesale dealers varied between Rs. 15-8-0 and Rs. 17-0-0 per std. md. and those for the retailers ranged from Rs. 16-0-0 to Rs. 17-8-0 per std. md. The highest rate was Re. 0-3-6 a lb.

198. STANDARD CLOTH — The Baroda Government agreed to participate in the standard cloth scheme introduced by the Government of India and the mills of the State undertook the same obligation in regard to manufacture and supply as other mills in India. The quota of standard cloth allotted to the State came to 14.6 million yards.

Till April 2,97,000 yards were received of which 2,29,446 yards were sold.

Care is taken to see that the cloth reaches the people intended to benefit by the scheme. For supervision of the distribution arrangements, the Government have constituted a State Advisory Committee with the Sar Suba as Chairman. District and Taluka Committees have also been organised. Representatives of the textile industry, members of the Dhara Sabha and others have been appointed to these committees.

199. KEROSENE OIL — Kerosene oil is supplied on the basis of 1941 supplies less the percentage cut prescribed by the Government of India. The total quantity of kerosene oil received in the State was 9,76,978 gallons and this was distributed — 4,64,427 gallons in towns and 5,12,551 gallons in villages.

CHAPTER XII

COMMEMORATION FUNDS

Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund

200. **OBJECT** — The main object of the Diamond Jubilee Commemoration Fund, which represents the interest on rupees one crore endowed by His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III is to assist in the improvement of village life in all its aspects - economic, social and cultural.

201. **TRUST BOARD** — To administer the Trust, a board of 19 members is constituted. Of these, 11 are ex-officio members, 4 represent the district local boards, 2 represent the Dhara Sabha and 2 are nominated from the backward classes and areas. The Dewan presides over the board and the Revenue Member works as Secretary.

202. **PROGRAMME OF WORKS** — A long term programme has been adopted and grouped under three heads:—

- (a) works of public utility in individual villages,
- (b) schemes for backward areas and classes, and
- (c) head-quarter schemes, benefiting large areas or sections of the rural population.

For village works, a ten-year programme (beginning from 1937-38 to 1946-47) was sanctioned in 1938-39 after a careful survey. Every village has been allotted a grant for the works it needed most, determined in consultation with the village panchayat. Such works absorb Rs. 2.40 lakhs every year. The special works sanctioned for the backward classes and areas, and the head-quarter schemes absorb half a lakh of rupees.

203. **RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE**— The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 15.65 lakhs. The expenditure on village works was Rs. 2.12 lakhs, on schemes for backward areas and classes Rs. 0.48 lakh and on head-quarter schemes Rs. 0.29 lakh. Rs. 0.13 lakh were spent on miscellaneous items and establishment etc. The total expenditure including deposits and advances amounted to Rs. 3.52 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 12.13 lakhs.

204. **VILLAGE WORKS** — Out of 746 works which were to be executed according to the programme 167 works were completed during the year as against 280 in the preceding year. 209 works

were in progress and 370 could not be taken up. Reduction in the works completed was mainly due to war conditions.

205. SCHEMES FOR BACKWARD CLASSES AND AREAS — During the year Rs. 0·48 lakh were spent on schemes for the development of backward classes and areas. Prominent among the schemes were the following:—

- (1) The D. J. Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda in Patan taluka.
- (2) The D. J. school for backward classes at Dabhoi.
- (3) Rabari colonization schemes.
- (4) The D. J. Antyaja boarding house, Vyara.

Grants were given to boarding houses and loans were advanced to co-operative societies of backward classes. Eleven new libraries were opened in backward villages.

206. HEAD-QUARTER SCHEMES — Some of the important schemes are:—

- (1) Health unit scheme.
- (2) Classes of leather-works, wood-engraving, calico printing and lacquer works conducted by the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute, Baroda.
- (3) Literacy campaign.
- (4) Soil conservation.

A scheme for improving poultry in two areas is also financed by the Trust.

207. THE D. J. BROADCASTING SCHEME — The Broadcasting station and the studio house have been completed. The transmitter has not yet been received.

Shree Sayajirao III Memorial Fund

208. ORIGIN AND OBJECT — To perpetuate the revered memory of His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III a sum of rupees one crore was endowed by His Highness the Maharaja on the occasion of his accession to the throne in February 1939. The fund is intended to finance schemes benefiting all the sections of the population without any distinction of caste or creed.

209. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The income of the fund is Rs. 3·50 lakhs every year. Including the balance at the end of the last year and Rs. 0·21 lakh received as interest during the year the total receipts were Rs. 13·70 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 13·30 lakhs,

210. SANCTIONED SCHEMES — The utilization of this fund awaits the cessation of hostilities. Four schemes, however, have been so far sanctioned. A short account of these schemes is given below:—

- (i) An annual endowment of Rs. 21,000 was made to the Benares Hindu University for establishing a chair to be called "The Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilization." The purpose of the donation is defined as follows:—

"The donor believes, with his illustrious predecessor, that there is a distinct type of thought and life in India which has been enduring through the centuries and which is India's greatest contribution to the world; in it, the Hindus and the Moslem, the Christian and the Parsee find common ground. It will be the main function of the Professor and the fellows to promote the cultural unity of India, by means of scholarly publications and lectures. Such publications shall be included in the Sayajirao Gaekwad Series to be inaugurated as a part of this foundation."

Dr. Sir Radhakrishnan works as Sir Sayajirao Professor of Indian Culture and Civilization. Messrs. Kamlesh Ghosh, P. Nagaraj Rao and Arvind Vasavada — the three fellows — were doing research work under him. Sir Radhakrishnan delivered the Kamla lectures in the University of Calcutta and Benares on the subject of social reconstruction in the light of Indian ideals. He also worked as General Editor of a series entitled "Library of Indian Philosophy and Religion."

- (ii): To supplement the efforts made from "Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust Fund" for medical aid to the women and children of the State, a grant of Rs. 10,000 a year has been sanctioned from the Memorial Fund. This amount was paid during the year. Six maternity wards were opened during the year at Dwarka, Vadnagar, Dhinoj, Chanasma, Vaso and Dhari from Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust Fund.
- (iii) An amount of Rs. 15,000 (to be raised up to Rs. 30,000 if required) is earmarked for the award of Sir Sayajirao Memorial Scholarships to the sons of Sardars, Assamdars, etc. In all 41 scholarships amounting to Rs. 9,125 were awarded during the year. Out of these, 27 were for secondary education, 10 for higher education and 4 for education at the Raj Kumar College, Rajkot.

- (iv) Besides the above, every year one student obtaining his B. Sc. degree from the Baroda College, is awarded a scholarship of Rs. 30 per month for study of Chemical Engineering and Textile Chemistry. Rs. 360 were spent for this scholarship during the year.

211. FUTURE PROGRAMME — Funds are being accumulated from this Trust for an Engineering College — in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering—to be opened after the war and for an institute for training in B. Sc. (Tech.) in Weaving Technology.

Diamond Jubilee People's Village Uplift Fund

212. DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLE'S VILLAGE UPLIFT FUND — The people of the State collected this fund to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III. The total fund now amounts to Rs. 7.59 lakhs. The yearly income of interest on this fund is Rs. 26,875.

The income is utilized for awarding scholarships to bona fide agriculturists for obtaining practical instruction in agriculture, horticulture and subsidiary occupations like leather tanning, paper making, tailoring, etc. A substantial amount is spent each year for encouraging khaddar industry in the State.

During the year scholarships amounting to Rs. 2,834 were awarded to 77 candidates for training in agriculture. For training in cottage industries, scholarships worth Rs. 1,464 were awarded to 54 candidates.

To encourage the weaving industry, 18 institutions which produce khadi, were given grants of Rs. 8,455. Rs. 1,143 were spent in giving implements for spinning, etc., at concession rates. The production of khadi increased by 75% during the year.

Selected young women from rural areas are trained in the Maharani Chimanabai Industrial Home in cottage industries and in rural problems. During the year, 12 young women attended this class and all of them passed the test at the end of the training. A boarding house is maintained for their benefit under the supervision of a matron. The expenditure on this scheme was Rs. 3,955.

The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 16,630.

About Rs. 47,500 were invested in Government securities and thus added to the corpus of the Fund. Rs. 6,135 remained in balance at the end of the year.

CHAPTER XIII

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

District Local Boards

213. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE — The income of local boards increased from Rs. 8.49 lakhs to Rs. 8.57 lakhs which is due partly to increased contribution from Government. The expenditure decreased from Rs. 9.29 lakhs to Rs. 8.43 lakhs.

214. GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION TO VILLAGE PANCHAYATS — To encourage village panchayats to undertake works of public utility of a permanent nature, the Government and the prant panchayats contribute half the cost and the other half is borne by the village panchayats.

215. INSPECTION — As usual, the panchayats were inspected by the Sar Suba, the Naib Panchayat Adhikari and the local boards inspecting auditors.

216. IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES — The following important activities of the prant panchayats deserve mention:—

- (i) *Anti-malarial measures* — Anti-malarial campaigns were carried on by the Navsari, Mehsana, Baroda and Amreli prant panchayats in the worst areas in their districts with fairly good results.
- (ii) *Guinea worm* — The Sankheda taluka in Baroda district was selected for intensive work in eradication of guinea worm. Schemes were also in operation at Patan, Chanasma and Harij.
- (iii) *Tree plantation* — The Mehsana and Amreli boards attended specially to tree planting. This, however, is not being done on the scale required and it is hoped that all panchayats will devote more attention to this.

Baroda City Municipality

217. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE — The income of the Municipality decreased from Rs. 12.20 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 11.97 lakhs. The expenditure decreased from Rs. 12.04 lakhs to Rs. 11.21 lakhs.

The incidence of taxation per head was Rs. 6-3-3 as against Rs. 6-3-1 in the previous year.

218. **HEALTH** — The general health of the city was good though a few cases of typhoid were reported. The anti-malarial campaign was continued as usual.

Among the important works undertaken during the year, the following deserve mention:—

- (i) The Municipality provided Rs. 50,000 for opening cheap grain shops for the poor in the Baroda City. Four shops were conducted for three months from September to November 1942.
- (ii) Propaganda for popularising vaccination against small-pox and inoculation against typhoid was conducted. Anti-typhoid vaccines were supplied free of charge to doctors. Booklets on the prevention of tuberculosis were distributed among the public.

'A' Class Municipalities

219. **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE** —The total income of these municipalities was Rs. 8.35 lakhs as against 7.06 lakhs in the preceding year. The total expenditure of these bodies was Rs. 7.39 lakhs as against Rs. 6.88 lakhs in the previous year.

220. **INCIDENCE OF TAXATION** —The incidence of taxation per head of population was highest at Kalol being Rs. 4-2-3 and lowest at Dabhoi being Rs. 1-4-8.

221. **ANTI-MALARIAL CAMPAIGN** —The Navsari, Gandevi, Billimora, Kalol and Visnagar municipalities continued their anti-malarial programme with good results. Gandevi and Billimora municipalities organised a rat destruction campaign when an outbreak of plague was apprehended.

'B' Class Municipalities

222. **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE** —The total income of the 'B' class municipalities was Rs. 3.72 lakhs as against Rs. 3.44 lakhs in the preceding year. The expenditure was Rs. 3.88 lakhs as against Rs. 3.43 lakhs in the preceding year.

223. **INCIDENCE OF TAXATION** —The incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 1-1-0 in the Baroda district, Rs. 1-3-8 in the Mehsana district, Rs. 1-5-0 in the Navsari district, Rs. 1-2-7 in the Amreli district and Re. 0-12-10 in the Okhamandal — the minimum being Re. 0-2-0 at Makarpura and the maximum being Rs. 2-2-7 at Sankheda.

224. ANTI-MALARIAL WORK — The Vyara, Songadh and Kathor municipalities in the Navsari district and the Kodinar and Dhari municipalities in the Amreli district continued their anti-malarial operations.

225. GENERAL REMARKS — The most important event of the year was the special grant given by His Highness the Maharaja in December 1942 to the Prant Panchayats for accelerating their programme of rural improvements — especially water supply and communications. These grants amounted to Rs. 9.50 lakhs distributed as follows :—

Rs. 3 lakhs	Mehsana	Rs. 1 lakh	Amreli
„ 2 „	Navsari	„ 0.50 lakh	Okhamandal.
„ 3 „	Baroda		

CHAPTER XIV

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LEGISLATION

The working of Social Legislation

(1) Child Marriage Prevention Act

226. LEGISLATION — This legislation was first enacted in 1904. Persons responsible for the marriage of a boy under 16 or of a girl under 12 years were made liable to punishment of fine only. In the beginning this law was administered leniently but its working was gradually stiffened. In spite of occasional set-backs the law was exercising steady pressure and educating public opinion. In 1926, the Government reviewed the working of the legislation and came to the conclusion that public opinion had advanced enough to support an extension of the scope of the Act. The upward limit of fine was considerably raised, the marriage of a child under eight years was declared void and rendered liable to punishment with imprisonment. Even the priest officiating at child marriages was brought within the scope of the penal provisions. As a result of this amendment marriages of children under eight years fell from .12 per cent in 1929-30 to .02 in 1936-37. This percentage has remained steady till now. In 1932, the marriageable age for boys was raised to 18 and for girls to 14.

The number of child marriages during the last ten years is given below:—

Year		Number of cases of child marriages (with arrears)
1942-43	...	3,038
1941-42	...	3,952
1940-41	...	4,301
1939-40	...	3,545
1938-39	...	2,054
1937-38	...	3,306
1936-37	...	4,637
1935-36	...	4,624
1934-35	...	3,436
1933-34	...	3,130

The increase in the number of child marriages from the years 1934-35 may be attributed to the amendment of 1932 by which the marriageable age was raised to 18 for boys and 14 for girls. This number had, however, gone down during 1937-38. On the recommendation of the State Legislative Assembly, the punishment for all child marriages was enhanced, in December 1937, to simple imprisonment up to one month or fine up to Rs. 1,000 or both. There was a decrease in the number of child marriages during the year under report.

227. STATISTICS OF WORKING OF THE ACT — The following tables give the statistics showing the working of the Act during the year:—

I. Applications for exemption and offences against the Act

Year	Applications for exemptions		Offences against the Act				Percentage of fines of more than Rs. 10
	Number of applications	Percentage of applications rejected	Number of cases filed with arrears	Number of cases disposed of	Number of persons convicted	Percentage of convictions	
1942-43 ...	24	20·8	3,038	2,851	4,881	68·9	59·3
1941-42 ...	61	22·9	3,952	3,760	6,028	63·1	65·7

II. Percentage of persons granted exemptions according to castes

Year	Brahmins	Kshatriyas	Banias	Rabaris	Artisans	Kolis	Kunbis	Mahomedans	Others
1942-43 ...	10·5	...	15·8	...	15·8	15·8	15·8	...	26·3
1941-42 ...	9·5	...	14·3	...	9·5	2·4	21·4	2·4	40·5

III. Percentage of convictions according to castes

Year	Brahmins	Kshatriyas	Banias	Artisans	Kolis	Kunbis	Dheds and Bhangis	Purohitis	Others
1942-43 ...	3·5	1·8	0·3	2·4	13·9	18·3	18·0	20·	20·9
1941-42 ...	2·7	1·6	0·4	2·4	14·8	19·7	15·0	23·3	20·1

IV. Child marriages allowed or penalised by Courts and other marriages

Year	Child marriages		Other marriages	Total number of marriages	Percentage of child marriages to the total number
	Allowed by Courts	Penalised by Courts			
1942-43 ...	19	2,346	20,819	23,184	12·2
1941-42 ...	42	2,886	18,370	21,298	13·7

V. The following table shows the castes and communities in which child marriages took place during the year and the previous year

Serial No.	Name of caste	Number of persons convicted	
		1942-43	1941-42
1	Brahmin ...	175	167
2	Rajput ...	92	101
3	Bania ...	16	25
4	Kanbi ...	894	1,187
5	Soni, Suthar, Luhar ...	119	142
6	Musalman ...	57	61
7	Koli, Thakarda, Baria and Anjana ...	680	887
8	Rabari, Bhavvad ...	248	265
9	Machhi ...	9	16
10	Bhil ...	56	108
11	Kaliparaj ...	13	13
12	Bava, Beragi etc. ...	33	20
13	Vagri ...	78	91
14	Dhed and Bhangi ...	821	904
15	Others ...	569	636
	Total ...	3,860	4,623

Note:—1,021 Purohits or priests officiating at marriages were fined as abettors as against 1,405 during the previous year.

VI. The following table shows the proportion of marriages of children below 8 years to the total number

Number of cases of child marriages below 8 years	Total number of cases of child marriages disposed of	Proportion of cases of child marriages below 8 years to the total number of cases of child marriages
42	2,851	1 in 71

VII. The following table shows the number of cases of child marriages in different districts during the year under report

Name of the District	Number of cases of child marriages	
	1942-43 (with arrears)	1941-42 (with arrears)
Bharoda District ...	709	1,370
Mehsana District ...	2,157	2,259
Nasari District ...	52	65
Amreli District ...	120	258
Total ...	3,038	3,952

VIII. The following table shows the nature of punishment awarded to persons under the Child Marriage Prevention Act and the total amount of fine imposed

Number of persons sentenced only to imprisonment	Number of persons sentenced to imprisonment and fine	Number of persons sentenced to fine only	Total amount of fines imposed
24	54	4,803	74,877- 0- 0

228. OBSERVATION — The Act has been in force for the last 38 years. Although the evil has not been completely eradicated, public opinion against it has grown steadily. The harmful custom persists because certain economic and social factors provide congenial conditions. Some of these are:—

- (i) Marriage expenditure is reduced if two or three boys or girls of the house are married at one time.
- (ii) The division into castes and sub-castes and "Gols" in most communities reduced the number of eligible parties and an opportunity to get a desirable party is not missed even though the provisions of the Act may have to be contravened.

However, the spread of education and social progress coupled with the strict enforcement of the law by the courts will assist in the achievement of the object of the legislation. The average age of marriage has both in the case of boys and girls risen by about 5 years since 1904.

(2) Hindu Divorce Law

229. HINDU DIVORCE LAW — Hindu Law does not allow divorce except in certain communities where it is permitted by custom. To remove the disability in this respect of the remaining castes, the Hindu Divorce Act was passed in 1931. Provision has been made in the law for

- (i) divorce,
- (ii) judicial separation,
- (iii) separate residence,
- (iv) nullity of marriage, and
- (v) restitution of conjugal rights.

The grounds on which relief can be sought are cruelty, desertion, adultery, drunkenness, impotency and incompatibility of temperament. Relief on these grounds is available to all Hindus.

The following figures show the extent to which advantage was taken of this law:—

Year	Suits for					Suits by persons in whose caste divorce is not allowed by custom
	Divorce	Judicial separation	Separate residence	Nullity of Marriage	Restitu- tion of conjugal rights	
1942-43	40	2	1	...	...	...
1941-42	37	2	2	1	...	3
1940-41	32	1	1	3	...	6
1939-40	44	3	...	1	2	6
1938-39	38	3	1	...	...	6
1937-38	45	1	2	...	3	5
1936-37	44	4	...	...	3	4
1935-36	30	5	...	...	4	3
1934-35	45	...	...	...	6	1
1933-34	58	1	1	...	4	1
1932-33	29	3	...	...	8	1
1931-32	35	4	...	...	8	1.

The number of suits by persons belonging to castes in which custom does not allow divorce was three this year which is the same as last year,

230. NATURE OF SUITS FILED — The following table shows the grounds on which relief was claimed and the relief sought in suits filed under the law during the year under report:—

Relief sought	No. of suits	Grounds
Divorce ...	5	Cruelty by husband.
	19	Cruelty and desertion by husband.
	0	Cruelty, desertion and habitual drunkenness of husband.
	1	Cruelty, desertion and husband taking another wife.
	0	Cruelty and false charge of unchastity.
	7	Desertion by husband.
	1	Impotency of husband.
	2	Cruelty and desertion by wife.
	1	Misbehaviour and desertion by wife.
	0	Loose character and unnecessary harassment by wife.
	4	Desertion by wife.
	40	
	0	Cruelty and desertion by husband.
Judicial separation...	2	Desertion and husband taking another wife.
	2	
Separate residence...	0	Cruelty and desertion by husband.
	1	Cruelty, desertion and the husband taking another wife.
	1	
Nullity of marriage.	0	Concealing the fact of having a former wife at the time of marriage.
Grand Total ...	43	

Note:—The main grounds on which divorce is sought are cruelty and desertion.

231. DETAILS OF SUITS BY HIGHER CASTES — Of the suits filed under the law during the year, in three the parties belonged to castes in which custom does not allow divorce. In one of them a Bania woman sued her husband for divorce on the ground of desertion. In the second, a Brahmin woman sued her husband for separate residence on the ground of cruelty and desertion. The third suit was by one Anavil Brahmin who sued his wife for divorce on the ground of desertion. Of these three suits, two were compromised and the third is pending.

(3) Legislation regarding the rights of Hindu women

232. HINDU LAW AMENDED IN 1933-34 — In November 1933, the Code of Hindu Law was amended so as to widen the rights of Hindu women in matters of inheritance and rights to property.

Under the amended Law,

- (a) the widow of a co-parcener takes the place of her husband as a co-parcener in the joint family i. e. she becomes a joint owner of the family property with a right to ask for partition;
- (b) she becomes as absolute owner of property, which she acquires either by partition or inheritance, to the extent of property worth Rs. 12,000 and retains her limited interest in the surplus if there be any;
- (c) a widow can inherit her husband's exclusive property along with her sons obtaining a share equal to that of a son;
- (d) where a widow acquires limited interest in property, that interest has been liberalised by allowing her to alienate the property for endowing educational institutions and charitable purposes and by restricting the right to challenge her alienations to a specified number of reversioners;
- (e) an unmarried daughter can claim a share in the family property equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a son's share and can have it separated;
- (f) a married but widowed daughter can claim maintenance from her father's family property under certain circumstances;
- (g) a widowed daughter-in-law has been given a place in the list of heirs after the mother of the deceased father-in-law;
- (h) sons of a predeceased daughter can claim inheritance with living daughters.

233. POSITION OF HINDU WOMEN IMPROVED — These reforms have considerably improved the status and material position of women in Hindu families. Suits by widow co-parceners are being instituted for partition of their shares in the joint property. In suits by reversioners to challenge alienations by widows the defence is freely set up of possession of absolute interest in the property alienated. The right to challenge such alienation being now given only to a restricted class of reversioners, such suits are bound to decrease. It is doubtful if women in all strata of Hindu society are as yet conscious of their new rights under the reformed law. The knowledge is sure to spread as years go by and, whether women in all cases insist on these rights or not, the knowledge that they possess such rights will greatly improve their position *vis a vis* the male members of their families.

234. SUITS INVOLVING RIGHTS OF HINDU WOMEN — Five suits were filed during the year under report, to enforce rights conferred on Hindu women by the amended law. In four suits the plaintiffs, as Hindu widows, claimed shares in the joint family property as co-parceners and in the remaining one the plaintiff claimed maintenance. Of these one ended in compromise and the remaining four are pending.

235. **BIGAMY BY HINDU HUSBAND** — In April 1942, Section 116 of the Code of Hindu Law was amended so as to make re-marriage of a husband during the life time of his first wife illegal. One complaint was filed by wife in the Navsari 1st Class magistrate's court against her husband for contracting a second marriage. The complaint was of the offence under Section 491 (bigamy) of the local Penal Code. The magistrate convicted the husband of the offence and sentenced him to undergo rigorous imprisonment for three months and Rs. 500 (five hundred) fine. The legislation making monogamy obligatory has been well received and public opinion supports the law.

(4) Special Marriage Act

236. **SPECIAL MARRIAGE ACT** — The Special Marriage Act came into force in the State in 1908. In British India the parties to an inter-marriage between persons of different communities had to declare that they did not belong to the Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Mahomedan, Parsi, Buddhist, Sikh or Jain religion. It was not necessary under the Baroda Act to make any such declaration. British Indian enactment was brought into line with the Baroda Act in 1923. Fourteen marriages under the Act were registered during the year. In eleven both the parties were Hindus. Not less than 71 marriages took place under the Act since it came into force. Love often disrespects the barriers set up by religion or social custom and the Act is intended to help persons who intend to marry in defiance of these barriers and yet retain their religion.

(5) The Caste Tyranny Removal Act

237. **THE CASTE TYRANNY REMOVAL ACT** — In Gujarat numerous customs restrictive of liberty persist. Such, for instance, are the customs which penalise foreign travel, restrict marriage in certain castes to "Gols" which are small groups within the caste or even sub-caste, which force people to incur heavy expenditure on occasions like marriage, death etc. Enlightened persons have long felt the tyranny of such customs but were helpless. The Caste Tyranny Removal Act was passed in 1933 to meet this evil. It empowers the Courts to punish persons who penalise those who defy these tyrannous customs.

238. **CASES UNDER THE ACT** — The number of complaints filed since the passing of the Act are given below:—

1942-43	... 6	1937-38	... 8
1941-42	... 4	1936-37	... 12
1940-41	... 9	1935-36	... 10
1939-40	... 7	1934-35	... 11
1938-39	... 5		

There were 7 cases including arrears before the courts during the year. Of these 6 resulted in discharge as the allegations about excommunication were not proved.

239. OBSERVATIONS — People are generally reluctant to seek the help of this Act as such a step embitters their relations with the leaders of the caste. Apart from the result of cases filed in the courts, the existence of the Act and the fact that leaders of castes are liable to be hauled up before a court have proved a salutary check on the arbitrary exercise of the power of excommunication. The people of the caste are unwilling to depose against the caste leaders, and complainants find it very difficult to prove even the fact of excommunication.

(6) Agriculturists' Debt Regulation Act

240. AGRICULTURISTS' DEBT REGULATION ACT — The Agriculturists' Debt Regulation Act came into force on 26th December 1935. This Act is intended to give relief to indebted agriculturists with due regard to the interests of creditors. It enables courts,

- (a) to examine the history of the whole debt, re-open transactions and, to fix the amount due on equitable considerations; and
- (b) to decree repayment in convenient instalments.

241. OBJECT — The legislation was enacted to give protection to the smaller agriculturists as, owing to the fall in prices, the real burden on them had nearly doubled. Relief is to be given only to agriculturists whose income from lands is Rs. 750 a year or below. Where an agriculturist derives income from sources other than agriculture, such income should not exceed one-third of his total income and the total income itself from all sources should be Rs. 750 or below a year.

242. SUITS DISPOSED OF DURING THE YEAR — 4,205 suits under the Act were disposed of during the year. 1,544 of them were compromised. The Courts reduced the principal amount claimed in 376 suits and the amount of interest in 233 suits. Instalments were decreed in 483 suits. Court-fees amounting to Rs. 73,680-10-11 were refunded to the parties. About 5,679 agriculturists obtained relief under the Act during the year. The following table shows the number of agriculturists of different communities who were benefited by the provisions of the Act:—

Community				Number of persons receiving relief
Patidar	...	...	...	1,684
Koli	...	...	...	138
Thakarda	...	...	...	332
Baria	...	...	...	566
Mahomedan	...	...	...	190
Rajput	...	...	...	379
Dhed	...	...	...	139

Community				Number of persons receiving relief
Brahmin	...	...	...	90
Bania	...	...	...	29
Barot	...	...	...	79
Kumbhar	...	...	...	42
Waghari	...	...	...	16
Gosai, Bava	...	...	...	14
Others	...	...	...	1,981

Total 5,679

The following table will show the file disposal and arrears of suits under the Act during the year under report :—

Arrears	File	Total	Disposal	Pending
1,420	3,973	5,393	4,205	1,188

The following table shows the modes of disposal :—

Year	No. of suits in which reduction was made in the capital	No. of suits in which reduction was made in interest	No. of suits in which instalments were allowed	No. of suits disposed of by Raji- nama and compromise	No. of suits disposed of otherwise	Amount of reduction in debt
						Rs.
1942-43	376	233	483	1,544	1,569	24,221-15-0
1941-42	463	320	349	1,954	1,695	26,074- 8-9

Year	Amount of which reduction was made in interest	Total amount claimed in suits disposed of	Amount of court-fees refunded
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1942-43	11,795-15-2	12,05,240-10-5	73,680-10-11
1941-42	9,371- 9-1	11,95,355- 1-8	77,511-14- 6

(7) Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act

243. SANYAS DIKSHA RESTRAINT ACT—The Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act which came into force on 9th November 1933, prohibits

Economic Legislation

REGISTRATION.—The eco-

(i) The Rent Regulation Act, 1934.

- The working of these acts is described below.

(i) The Rent Regulation Act

MENT REGULATION ACT—The Act

The following statement shows the cases filed and disposed of

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Type of cases		1942-43					1941-42				
		Arrears	Cases recd.	Total	Disposal	Arrears	Arrears	Cases recd.	Total	Disposal	Arrears
By TENANTS											
1. Ejection of tenants	...	...	121	121	119	2	1	68	69	69	...
2. Modification of rent	...	14	244	258	215	43	3	748	751	737	14
3. Fixing of rent	...	5	89	94	94	...	13	132	145	140	5
Total	...	19	454	473	428	45	17	948	965	946	19
By LAND HOLDERS											
4. Restoration of possession of land.		3	96	99	76	23	...	126	126	123	3
5. Suits for recovery of arrears of rent.		31	301	332	306	26	16	248	264	233	31
Total	...	34	397	431	382	49	16	374	390	356	34

(ii) The Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act 1934

246. THE ANKADIA VILLAGES' TENANTS ACT 1934 — To safeguard the interests of tenants in the Thakarati Ankadia villages and to regulate the relations between the Ankadedars of such villages and their tenants the Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act was brought into force in 1934. The Act is applicable to 33 villages of Baroda, Mehsana and Amreli districts. All the cases under this Act are conducted before Naib-Subas. The Sarsuba is the appellate authority. No cases were filed in the Mehsana and Amreli districts, and 8 cases were received in the Baroda district under this Act. Out of these 8 cases, 7 were filed by Ankadedars for the recovery of arrears and restoration of possession and one case was filed by a tenant for the restoration of possession.

(iii) The Debt Conciliation Act

247. THE DEBT CONCILIATION ACT — The primary object of this legislation is to reduce the burden of agricultural indebtedness through conciliation. The following table shows the number of talukas in each district to which the Act has been applied together with the number of the Debt Conciliation Boards constituted under the Act:—

District	Name of the D. C. Boards	Talukas under the board
Baroda ...	Baroda vibhag	Karjan, Sinor.
	Dabhoi vibhag	Dabhoi, Sankeda, Waghodia, Tilakwada.
Mehsana ...	Patan vibhag	Patan, Harij.
Navsari ...	Navsari vibhag	Navsari, Gandevi.
	Vyara vibhag	Songadh, Vyara, Mahuwa.
	Kamrej vibhag	Palsana, Kamrej, Mangrol.
Amreli ...	Amreli vibhag	Amreli.
	Kodinar vibhag	Kodinar, Khambha, Dhari.

These Boards are presided over by the Naib Subas except in the case of the Dhari taluka, where a retired State officer is appointed by Government to work as president. The President is assisted by three to nine members nominated from the public of the respective taluka. Where there is a Land Mortgage Bank, one of the directors of the Bank serves on the Board.

The Act is applicable to agriculturists whose income does not exceed Rs. 1,500 and whose income from agriculture is not less than

two-thirds of their total income. The debt for which conciliation is sought should be not less than Rs. 100 and not more than Rs. 25,000.

During the year under report the Conciliation Board dealt with 148 cases in which the aggregate claim was for Rs. 2,89,862. Conciliation in 26 cases with the claim for Rs. 77,110 was effected for Rs. 34,991 or 45% of the demand.

(iv) The Backward Classes Land Protection Act, 1938.

248. THE BACKWARD CLASSES LAND PROTECTION ACT, 1938 — The Rani-paraj and other backward classes, because of their poverty and ignorance easily fall into debt and are being steadily ousted from their lands by money-lenders. Such alienation if allowed to continue would ultimately result in reducing these people into a class of landless labourers, and would defeat all the measures of Government for their uplift. With the object of preventing this the Act has been brought into force since 1938, and applied to Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva, and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district and Sankheda, Tilakwada, Dabhoi, and Waghodia talukas of the Baroda district. The Act prohibits the alienation of the lands of the backward classes, except on one year's lease, without the permission of the Naib Suba. Land alienated without such a permission is restored by the Naib Suba. The following table shows the work done under this Act:—

District	Arrears at the end of 1941-42	New cases received during 1942-43	Total	Disposal			Arrears
				Allowed	Dis- allowed	Total	
Baroda	...	48	48	38	9	47	1
Navsari	...	49	49	15	34	49	...

CHAPTER XV

AGRICULTURE

249. ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT — The activities of the department consist of

- A. Research—
 - (a) Plant breeding, pathology and entomology.
 - (b) Agricultural chemistry.
- B. Agriculture—
 - (a) Farms and experiments.
 - (b) Propaganda.
 - (c) Schemes.
 - (d) Seed supply organisation.
- C. Soil conservation.
- D. Animal husbandry and veterinary relief.
- E. Poultry development.
- F. Horticulture.
- G. Agricultural engineering.
- H. Marketing.

A. Research

250. COTTON ROOT ROT — Different Karkhadi and Rozi progenies were tried in special layouts to test their resistance to this disease and promising progenies were selected for further trials. Field experiments to study the effects of different rotations on the root rot of cotton were laid out and are to be continued for three years. Glass house studies for isolating resistant Karkhadi plants were continued. Viability of Sclerotia of the root rot fungus was found to be 40% even after four years.

251. PATHOLOGICAL RESEARCH ON OTHER CROPS — Several other crops attacked by fungi were examined. Experiments on soft rot of ginger were continued. Pot culture showed that Ceresan dusting or the Bordeaux mixture application one month after germination is able to control the disease. Control trials on the culm decay of

Turmeric showed that raised bed planting is more advisable and different manures are insignificant.

Identifications of diseases of fruit and vegetables were made and control measures suggested.

All available types of pulses and millets were grown for preliminary study.

252. ENTOMOLOGY—This section has been recently added to study and investigate into effects of insects on crops and suggest ways and means to counter-act them. During the year, agriculturally important pests as on sugarcane, store pests, locusts, white-ants, spotted boll worm, cotton semi-looper, rats etc., were studied and leaflets dealing with their control measures were issued and distributed.

253. AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY — The grading of ghee was undertaken by this section and during the year 267 samples were analysed. The following are some of the important investigations taken up during the year:—

- (i) A study of the soluble salt content in the soil of the Harij dry farm.
- (ii) Vitamin C contents of fruits and vegetables and the effects of manuring and working on the Vitamin C content. Vitamin C content of some 20 common fruits like lemon, banana, pine-apple, etc., and some 20 different vegetables were determined.
- (iii) Sand-covered lands on the Mahi river banks near Dabka were examined. Chemical analysis showed an extremely low percentage of clay.
- (iv) The soil on the banks of the Tapti in the Songadha and Vyara taluka was examined and found to be suitable for sugar-cane cultivation or other irrigated crop.

254. CROP RESEARCH — Crop research was conducted at six main stations: Baroda, Amreli, Dabhoi, Jagudan, Vyara and Deodarda. The work on cotton at the farms was concerned with the selection or evolution of a type best suited to the soil and climate of the area. Besides this, experiments with bajra, wheat and ground-nuts were continued and several promising types isolated.

B. Agriculture

255. EXPERIMENTAL FARMS — Separate farms have been established for each of the distinctive agricultural tracts of the State, to experiment with crops and processes of agriculture and discover

those best suited to the soil, the climate and condition of the area, and to help to provide the need for pedigree seeds, modern implements and manure. There are nine such farms in the State.

BARODA FARM — The central farm is at Baroda. It has an area of 163 bighas of sandy loam known as gorat. Cultural, varietal and manurial experiments were carried out with crops of the district. Groundnut spacing and varietal trials showed that 1' spacing between rows is definitely better than $1\frac{1}{2}'$. Amongst wheat varieties, Cawnpore 13 is proved to be the best and will now replace P. 4 when sufficient seed supply becomes available. Cotton varietal trials showed the superiority of 1-6 and 1-2 to 3-9, 76-1 and 1027 A. L. F. Experiments with cigarette tobacco and improved varieties of lemons, bananas, grapes etc., were continued. In the fruit preservation laboratory fruit canning, bottling of juices, preparation of jams and jellies are taught. The farm supplied 5,070 lbs. of B. 9 nucleus seeds and 8,156 of wheat seeds.

DABHOI FARM — It has an area of 118 bighas of medium black, black cotton, gorat and kyari lands. Experiments with open field paddy are conducted here in co-operation with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. Amongst cotton varieties 1-6 and 1-2 continued to give good yields. The farm supplied 5,909 lbs. of pedigree seeds and 460 lbs. nucleus seeds of B. D. 8 and 1,486 lbs. of pedigree seeds of 1-6.

VYARA FARM — The area of this farm is about 47 bighas of black kyari soil. Its principal function is to experiment with different types of sugarcane and supply sets of improved cane to cultivators. The cane investigation tests resulted in giving first place to C. O. 411 with 9,185 lbs. of gul as its yield as against 6,286 lbs. of P. O. J. 2,878. Varietal and manurial experiments on paddy were carried on. The farm supplied 32,060 lbs. of paddy seeds and 1,945 maunds of sugarcane sets.

VESMA FARM — The area of the farm is 106 bighas representing the black cotton soil of the Navsari district. Amongst cotton varieties, Seg. 8-1 continued to give better yield and ginning percentage than 1027 A. L. F. A. K. 10 erect groundnut gave the best yield. Cultural and manurial experiments with other types of groundnut, juwar and cotton were continued. The farm supplied 58,109 lbs. of Seg. 8-1 seeds, 27,517 lbs. of A. L. F. A grade seeds, 6,400 lbs. of Budhperio juwar seeds and 4,582 lbs. of groundnut seeds.

JAGUDAN FARM — The area of the farm is 88 bighas representing the sandy alluvial soil of the tract. Wagad 8 cotton continued to be the best of the closed-boll types of cotton. Cawnpore 13 wheat

gave the best results and was found to be rust resistant. Berseem as fodder produced better than lucerne or oats.

AMRELI FARM — This farm did useful work with experiments on different types of cotton, groundnut, wheat, sugarcane etc. S. 31 cotton was found to give an equally good yield as C. 520. Though it is a better spinner its ginning percentage is rather low. A. H. 32 groundnut continued to be the best type suited to this area. C. 13 and N. 81 varieties of wheat showed better yield than I. P. 4 and D. 162. C. O. 419 cane was found better in yield than P. O. J. 2878 and was supplied to cultivators.

HARIJ FARM — It covers 612 bighas of salt crusted soil. Soil analysis indicated reduction of salt in the low lying fields. Half the farm area was put under juwar, bajri, wheat and gram but the yield was poor.

KALYANPURA FARM — The work of the farm could not be started owing to unfavourable seasonal conditions. Expansion of the farm is under contemplation of the Government.

DEODARDA FARM — Cultural and varietal experiments with different crops including cotton were carried out. Amongst the 19 bajri varieties, Ajmeri was found to be the best in yield of grain and fodder.

These farms are fulfilling their functions in their respective areas. The value of the pure nuclei of the seed maintained on such farms is reflected in the ever-increasing seed supply.

256. **PROPAGANDA** — The crux of the problem in agriculture is to link the work of the experimental farms with the villages, to induce the agriculturist to adopt varieties of crops, methods of farming and collection of manure etc., which the farms after numerous experiments and field trials have found to be the best suited to the tract. A solution of this problem is attempted on a comprehensive plan which includes (i) intensive work units, (ii) agricultural education (iii) tours and exhibitions and (iv) rural reconstruction centres.

- (i) *Intensive units*: Areas selected for intensive work are divided into units of about 20 villages and each unit again divided into three or four sub-units. A unit is in charge of an overseer and a sub-unit under a kamgar assisted by a fieldman, all trained on the Government farms. The kamgars carry out selected experiments on farms of agriculturists as an object lesson to the villagers, besides distributing improved seeds and implements and showing improved methods of collecting manures. On this plan there were 19 intensive units serving 411

villages as against 18 units in the previous year. This does not include the villages served by Kosamba centre. The following figures indicate the work these units did during the year:—

	Baroda Dist.	Navsari Dist.	Mehsana Dist.	Amreli Dist.	Total 1942-43
Crop trials on agri- culturists' farms	354	531	340	136	1,360
Urine earth and compost collected (in cart loads)	3,604	2,924	16,588	14,557	37,673

As a result of propaganda through these intensive units 14,91,233 lbs. of improved seeds, 14,62,776 lbs. of manures including ammonia sulphate, bone meal and oil cakes and 333 implements were sold through the departmental depots.

In the areas outside the intensive zones, graduate assistants tour with itinerant carts, showing the cultivators improved seeds and implements, teaching them the best methods of collecting and preserving manure and distributing seeds and implements at concession rates. They also give illustrated lectures and show educative films which attract a very large number of people. The four district carts made 29 circuits touching 252 villages. Orders were registered for the supply of 1,38,555 lbs. of improved seeds, 64,320 lbs. of oil cakes, 200 lbs. of bone meal and 200 implements.

Agricultural education: Courses in agriculture are given at the farms at Baroda, Jagudan and Amreli. There is a long course of training extending over a year and also several short courses of six to twelve weeks, giving instruction in practical farming and special subjects such as tobacco production and curing, poultry rearing, horticulture etc. All students receive stipends while they are in the farms. 214 students took advantage of these classes and were trained in agriculture, horticulture, tobacco curing, poultry keeping and fruit preservation.

Besides, there were three agricultural bias schools working at Deodarda, Dabhoi and Kuvarda. The first two were specially started for backward class people and had 68 and 45 students respectively. The last one was

started in the beginning of the year and flower and vegetable plots were laid out.

- (iii) *Tours and exhibitions:* Special efforts were made to attract parties of cultivators to Jagudan and Amreli farms, and farmers' days were organised for the purpose on a very large scale. Demonstrations of preservation of lime juice and other fruit products were given at Vijapur and Karjan.

257. **RURAL RECONSTRUCTION CENTRES** — A rural reconstruction centre is an efficient agency for spreading agricultural knowledge, and its aim is to develop a will to live better and to bring about improvement in all aspects of rural life. There are two such centres, one at Kosamba and the other at Karjan.

258. **KOSAMBA CENTRE** — The main object of the centre is to co-ordinate the activities of all the development departments and to establish a co-operative agency to carry on the uplift work of the centre.

The activities of the centre are two-fold:

- (i) work at the centre,
- (ii) work in the selected villages.

The summary given below of its activities indicates the many-sidedness of the work done by the centre:

- (i) *Cooperative Societies:*—The main programme is that every village included in the centre should have a well run co-operative Society.

Of the 35 villages, 27 have societies.

- (ii) *Agricultural:* The centre controls 9 co-operative 1027 A. L. F. cotton sale societies which commanded 37,626 bighas under different grades. The centre supplied improved paddy seeds to cultivators. Improved seeds of groundnut, juwar, wheat and tuer and artificial manures were also supplied. As a result of propaganda by the centre 2,493 cart loads of urine earth were collected by cultivators.
- (iii) *Kitchen gardening and horticulture:* Kitchen gardens were systematically laid out in villages and exhibitions were held. The centre introduced on sale 738 fruit plants in the centre villages.
- (iv) *Livestock and poultry:* 7 Kankrej stud bulls were kept to improve the livestock. 34 R. I. R. cockerels and 510 hatching eggs were issued to the villages. 36 castrations were performed.

- (v) *Cottage industries*: 342 lbs. of slivers, 3,668 yards of khadi and 222 bed-tapes were prepared by the villagers. 52 women and girls were taught tailoring.
- (vi) *Co-operation*: The Mangrol taluka development association supplied vegetable and grain seeds and insecticides to its members. The thrift societies for women deposited Rs. 2,733. Co-operative stores at Mangrol and Vankal did good work.
- (vii) *Sanitation*: The centre works in close co-operation with the Kosamba health unit and helped in the introduction of 5 septic tanks, 6 bath rooms, 1 bore-hole latrine, 19 soakage pits, 6 chokdis, 1 gutter and many windows. In the beginning of the year there were 15 village dispensaries to which 10 more were added during the year.
- (viii) *Education*: 5 students were trained in poultry keeping and classes for adult education were conducted in two villages. One agricultural bias school was started at Kuvarda.

259. **KARJAN CENTRE** — The rural reconstruction centre at Karjan was started in 1938-39. It concentrated its work in the surrounding 13 villages dealing with agricultural improvements, livestock, cottage industries, adult education, sanitation and other activities relating to rural welfare. During the year, the centre's chief agricultural interest continued to be B. D. 8 cotton. All the certified seed stock was purchased by the Government at a premium.

260. **DEODARDA THAKARDA SCHOOL AND DABHOI BACKWARD CLASS AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL** — Similar in aims to these reconstruction centres are the Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda and the agricultural bias school at Dabhoi, both financed from the Diamond Jubilee Trust. Education in these schools is partly literary and partly vocational, the latter consisting of agriculture, poultry keeping and cottage industries.

261. **EFFECTS OF PROPAGANDA** — As a result of all this propaganda the use of pedigree seeds, fertilisers and modern implements has very much increased and cultivators are making urine earth and compost manure on a very large scale.

Schemes

262. **ASSISTED SCHEMES** — The following schemes were worked in co-operation with the Indian Central Cotton Committee:—

- (i) *The 1027 A. L. F. cotton extension scheme*: 6,118 bhars of cotton were received from the certified area and

gave 4,003 bales which were given a special stencil mark and sold through the marketing agency. The Cotton Control Act was strictly applied.

- (ii) *B. D. 8 cotton extension scheme*: Seed supply for 48,715 bighas was issued but the unfavourable season reduced the area to 38,870 bighas of the required purity. A premium of Rs. 65 per bhar was secured by certified growers. The Cotton Control Act was applied and B. D. 8 was the authorised type for all the cotton growing talukas of Baroda district except Savli and Waghodia.
- (iii) *B. 9 cotton extension scheme*: B. 9 was declared to be the authorised type for the Savli and Waghodia talukas. Seed supply for 15,735 bighas was issued but the unseasonable rains reduced the area to 11,863 bighas of the required purity. A premium of Rs. 50 per bhar was secured by the certified growers.
- (iv) *Dholeras cotton improvement scheme*: At Amreli and Jagudan experiments were continued with the selections on hands.
- (v) *Wagad 8 scheme*: The scheme has been extended for another period of 2 years. It was worked at the Jagudan farm and Wagad 8 seems to be the best type suited to Mehsana district.

There were three schemes conducted with the financial aid of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research:—

- (i) *Paddy research scheme*: This was the third year of its working. Best progenies from malvan, dhundani, saria and paneji were selected for further trials. Local malvan was found superior under open cultivation, R. 2 and T. 21 under drilled and unirrigated conditions, local kolum under drilled irrigated condition and Nawabi and K. 226 under transplanted condition. Fertiliser responded better under fallow conditions.
- (ii) Investigation of suitable types of sugarcane for Gujarat which is carried on in the Vyara farm, C. O. 411 stood first with 9,185 lbs. of gul as against 6,286 lbs. of P. O. J. 2878. The scheme has been extended for one year more.
- (iii) *Pulse and millet scheme*: This scheme started working since April 1943. All available types of pulses and millets were grown for preliminary study.

Besides these, schemes for improvement of grass lands, turning town refuse into compost manure and feeding oil cakes to milch cattle have been sanctioned by the I. C. A. R.

263. STATE SCHEMES — The following schemes were undertaken by the State:—

- (i) *The Virginia tobacco extension scheme*: This was the fourth year of the operation of the scheme. Curing was done at Bajwa and Bandhani in Baroda district. Bajwa produced 99,710 lbs. of green leaf which gave 17,178 lbs. of cured and graded leaf with a top grade percentage of 62. Bandhani produced 80,850 lbs. of green leaf which gave 12,452 lbs. of cured and graded leaf with a top grade percentage of 74. In Jagudan the results were again disappointing.
- (ii) *The Gandevi sugarcane scheme*: This was a bad year from the point of view of cane supply to the Gandevi Sugar Factory. This was due to the very high price of gul which made the growers unwilling to sell their sugarcane to the factory.

1,30,000 canes of improved types viz. C. 0-419, C. 0-421, C. 0-527 and 266, 400 lbs of cake fertiliser mixture were supplied to cultivators.

264. SEED ORGANISATION — Once a new variety has been justified by experiments at the farms and a popular demand created by propaganda, the cultivator should be assured of the supply of pure seed. To meet this need, the department has built up a seed organisation. The seed farm supplies seed to a nucleus of growers, who grow their seeds under close supervision for the farm depot. The farm depot distributes seeds to 'A' grade certified farmers whose produce in its turn will pass to the unions of growers and thence through the seeds depôts to the ordinary cultivator. Such organisations have been built up for cotton 1,027 A. L. F. in Navsari, B. D. 8 and B. 9 in Baroda, Wagad 8 in Mehsana, C. 520 in Amreli, for P. 4 and P. 52 wheats, A. H. 32 and A. H. 25 groundnuts P. O. J. 2,878 and C. O. 419 sugarcane, Jagudan bajri, paddy types T. 1 and T. 21, Kohlam 79 and Kohlam 226.

C. Soil conservation

265. PREVENTION OF SOIL EROSION — The problem arising out of sheet erosion on farmer's fields and gully erosion on the denuded sources of streams and along the banks of large rivers is assuming great importance in Gujerat and Kathiawar. There is much loss from such soil erosion and it is feared that if this state of affairs is allowed to continue and no steps are taken to check this waste of valuable soil

large tracts in Kathiawar and Gujarat, would lose their fertility and deteriorate in course of time to almost desert condition. To educate the people to the seriousness of the loss and to discover the best ways of checking it, the Government have established a separate organisation with a special soil conservation officer under the control of a committee consisting of the Sar Suba, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Chief Engineer and the Conservator of Forests. Special officers were deputed to study the operations for prevention of soil erosion in the Punjab. To carry on experiments on a large scale for working out the best methods of approach to different types of soil erosion, two district centres have been established, one at Dhari in Amreli district dealing with the more common type of soil erosion as the out-come of deforestation, uncontrolled grazing and general wearing away of the cultivated lands of slopping character and the other at Hirapura in Mehsana district where soil erosion is mainly due to gullies or kotars which are eating away into formerly cultivated tracts along the banks of large rivers.

266. DHARI CENTRE — At Dhari, the scheme was working in its third year, and the results obtained were encouraging. The summary given below of the work done in the experimental blocks and outside indicates the steps taken to check soil erosion:—

- (i) 1,000 contour trenches were newly made.
- (ii) 1,200 dry stone bunds and 10 brush wood dams were constructed to plug the gullies.
- (iii) Improvement of grass and vegetation: The whole of gauchar land was handed over for this soil conservation work and grazing was controlled. 100 bighas of gauchar land were treated with contour bunding, stirring of the soil and seeding. 25 maunds of sanjar grass were broadcast.
- (iv) Tree planting: 3,000 young trees were successfully reared. 1,200 seedlings were planted. Planting of seedlings and sowing of a variety of seeds was in progress at the end of the year.
- (v) Cultivators willing to adopt soil conservation measures were given facilities for contour bunding and trenching. Nearly 1,200 bighas of land were bunded.
- (vi) Amreli farm lands were surveyed for bunding and drain work.

300 bighas of cultivated lands falling in the block were acquired and included in the experimental block for soil erosion control measures.

As a result of these efforts, areas, once denuded, behind the bunds and dams in the gullies on the hills are gradually being filled with fertile soil which, otherwise, would have been washed away.

267. HIRAPURA CENTRE—Systematic work was started during the year. There are five blocks consisting of forest, gauchar and cultivated lands. The total area under these experimental blocks is 1,636 bighas. Summary of the work done during the year at the centre is given below :—

- (i) 2,000 check dams were constructed.
- (ii) Fast approaching gullies were contour-bunded with the help of a tractor. 13,400 running feet of such bunds were completed.
- (iii) Along the top subtending the ravine heads continuous small earthen ridges were made measuring 3,378 feet.
- (iv) 47 contour trenches were constructed.
- (v) 135 fields were wall-bunded to prevent damage being done to the experimental blocks.
- (vi) Seedlings of aal, babul, ketki etc., were planted.
- (vii) Certain areas were enclosed to control grazing on them.
- (viii) Jagudan and Harij farms were surveyed for bunding and drainage work.

This is the first year of the soil conservation scheme being systematically started in this centre and it will take time before definite results are known and successful methods are evolved for preventing soil erosion in this tract of the land.

D. Veterinary

268. VETERINARY RELIEF — 37 dispensaries continued to operate. The number of cases treated was 67,917 as against 60,367 in the previous year. The daily average attendance per dispensary increased from 15 to 17.5 and the expenditure per case increased from 9.5 as to 10.7 as.

The number of reported cases of outbreaks of contagious diseases increased from 227 to 269. Foot and mouth diseases predominated. Rinderpest and anthrax outbreaks were few. These were immediately attended to by the veterinary surgeons and preventive inoculations and vaccinations for hæmorrhagic septicæmia, anthrax and rinderpest were given to 91,518 animals. Foot and mouth diseases were controlled by treatment. During the year 4,224 animals were castrated as against 3,340 in the previous year.

269. **VETERINARY RESEARCH** — The laboratories for veterinary and poultry disease investigations and goat virus started working during the year. The officer in charge examined 1,471 specimens of pathological material. Bovine Surra disease was noticed for the first time in the State. Two obscure types of disease of sheep and goats were noticed. Investigations into various diseases such as anthrax, T. B., helminthiasis etc. were undertaken.

In the goat virus laboratory, 43,020 blood virus and 17,500 tissue virus doses were produced and issued to the veterinary surgeons.

Four general type diseases in poultry and two obscure types were investigated.

A laboratory for wool analysis was set up during the year and regular work will start in the coming year.

270. **LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT** — During the year there were four schemes in operation for the improvement of livestock :—

(a) *Rabari colonisation scheme*: The scheme has been started with the object of improving livestock and grasslands, eliminating the conflict between the cultivators and the Rabaris and bringing about the general uplift of the Rabari community. The scheme is being tried in the Mehsana district.

During the year, there were 19 settlements, the total area covered by these colonies being 10,757 bighas as against 4,735 bighas in the previous year. The year showed an all round progress. The total number of families settled on these colonies increased from 115 to 312. The average yearly income of a family from all sources increased from Rs. 190 to Rs. 260.

The Thakarda settlement at Vanasan was started during the year and planned activities were in progress.

(b) *Kankrej breeding scheme*: A farm at Khoraj was established to supply pedigree Kankrej bulls for improving the village cattle. The farm was closed on 1-4-43 and the animals were transferred to the Makarpura dairy, Bakrol farm and the Bellasar colony. Bakrol farm will now take the place of the Khoraj farm for supplying premium bulls.

(c) *Premium bull scheme*: At the end of the year, there were 88 bulls of different breeds in service in all the districts. The number of services recorded was 1,701.

(d) *Gir cattle breeding scheme*: During the year two more bulls were purchased and issued for service. The scheme originally applied only to the Kodinar taluka. But bulls not maintained in good condi-

tion by their keepers were transferred to other talukas of Amreli district.

271. **CATTLE SHOWS** — Five village cattle shows and one district cattle show at Mehsana were held during the year. The Mehsana cattle show was arranged in co-operation with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

272. **MAKARPURA DAIRY** — The strength of the herd increased from 135 to 175. 1,11,355 lbs. of milk were supplied. Bakrol farm has been opened for maintenance of dry stock.

E. Poultry

273. **POULTRY DEVELOPMENT** — The poultry improvement scheme is in the seventh year of its working. There were 8 adjuncts on the Government farms to provide improved birds and eggs to the chicken farmers. The total strength of the Government stock was 548 birds which gave 10,500 eggs. 2,096 eggs were issued to villages for hatching. The breeding season was good and 360 cocks and 3,500 eggs were issued for improvement work. There are 18 chicken farmers actively engaged in poultry improvement work.

F. Horticulture

274. **DEVELOPMENT** — The demand for nursery grafts was brisk and their prices rose by 50 to 100 per cent. 1,059 mango plants, 920 citrus, 531 guava and 1,926 other fruit plants were supplied to cultivators through Government nurseries. Nursery improvement in the Gandevi area was undertaken.

The banana plantation is at Asoj and mango plantation in the Dhari area showed a marked progress during the year.

275. **NURSERIES** — Dhari and Kodinar nurseries continued to show good progress. They sold about 13,000 fruit plants and over 200 lbs. of seeds. They also supplied vegetable seedlings. The Dhari fruit growers' association showed a good progress and its membership rose from 117 to 200.

The Gandevi fruit research farm was established in 1938-39 as a nursery and an experimental station for fruit growing in Gandevi which is one of the most important fruit growing centres in Gujerat. Experimental planting of pineapples, chiku, mango, citrus varieties etc. was carried out and almost completed. Excellent Kew pine-apples were produced, and demand for suckers was brisk.

276. **ORCHARD EXPANSION** — The grape vines on the Baroda farm did extremely well bearing a very good crop. Tenjilo and Italian lemon were bearing very well. The Kew pineapple crop in Gandevi was very good.

277. **FRUIT PRESERVATION** — The fruit preservation laboratory sold fruit products worth Rs. 2,265. The laboratory has been registered for military fruit supplies to the Government of India.

278. **TRAINING** — Horticultural training was given to the students at the Agricultural Institute. Three fruit preservation classes were held during the year and 11 students were trained. Horticultural lessons were given to the annual better farming class and to the students of the Jagudan agricultural school. The mali-in-training class trained 12 students.

279. **GROW MORE VEGETABLE CAMPAIGN** — Government have placed Rs. 10,000 with the Horticulturist for this campaign. Manures and seeds of vegetables were supplied to growers through Government depots at Baroda, Gandevi and Dhari. The Baroda farm supplied a large number of seedlings to local growers. Useful literature was published about Kitchen gardening and distributed all over the State.

G. Agricultural engineering

280. **ACTIVITIES** — The main activities of the section were as follows:—

- (i) **Boring** : 10 bores were completed increasing the water supply by 17 kos. They include 3 tube wells and 4 horizontal bores tried at Bakrol and Narmadpura. The total number of tube wells is now 98.
- (ii) **Well blasting** : Machine drilling and blasting scheme was extended for a further period of five years. 73 wells were drilled and blasted with the tractor set in 13 villages. The increase in water supply was 54 kos.
- (iii) **Tractor ploughing** : The scheme of contract ploughing has been made permanent. Under it, ploughing is done by tractors at concession rates. During the year, 2,201 bighas were ploughed at concession rates.
- (iv) **Pumping plants** : 18 engine pumps and 9 motor pumps were repaired. 3 Motor pumps were re-erected.
2 R. R. C. wells were completed and the third one is in progress.
- (v) **Implements** : 90 A. G. hoes were supplied.
- (vi) **Education** : 11 students attended the oil engine and tractor classes.
- (vii) **Cane-crushing** : The cane crushers worked in 18 villages and produced 5,319 maunds of gul,

- (viii) Miscellaneous : Repairs of boring tools, tractor ploughs, etc. were undertaken. 5 Persian wheels were installed. "Wash" "Deep" and water troughs were completed at Borasan. General survey of Okhamandal was carried out for well water.

H. Marketing

281. SURVEYS — Surveys of millets, castors, chillies, onions, garlies and poultry continued. The main activity of the section is marketing of 1027 A. L. F. cotton. 4,037 bales were graded and marked. Bales of cotton not up to mark were given green labels. The average premium received for certified bales was Rs. 16-7-7 per candy.

282. GRADING — (i) Ghee grading work was done at 5 centres. 36,738 maunds of ghee valued at Rs. 35.41 lakhs were graded and Ag-marked as against 10,203 maunds in the previous year. Besides this, 469 maunds of ghee were graded under municipal standard and 5,616 maunds of raw ghee were examined for B. R. value.

(ii) Egg-grading : Assistance of a grader was given to five packers who graded 3,18,850 eggs during the year.

283. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 7.86 lakhs as against Rs. 6.67 lakhs in the previous year. Besides this, the Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund contributed Rs. 76,093, the Indian Central Cotton Committee Rs. 27,096 and the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research Rs. 5,832.

284. ACTS AND RULES — The following Acts were brought into operation during the year :—

(i) The Cotton Control Act was applied to Baroda district making B. D. 8 and B. 9 cotton standard types for various talukas.

(ii) The Noxious Pest Control Act was applied to certain talukas of the Baroda district for eradication of cotton boll worm.

285. CONCLUSION — The department of Agriculture was re-organised in 1936 under a technical expert of great experience who still guides its ever-increasing activities. The department has since made most commendable progress in all its activities relating to agriculture and has fully justified the large increase in expenditure from Rs. 1.8 lakhs in 1934-35 to Rs. 7.86 lakhs in the year under report. It is estimated that the department by the various services it renders adds about Rs. 50 lakhs to the income of the agriculturists.

CHAPTER XVI

CO-OPERATION

286. MAIN FEATURES — The department continued to follow the policy of consolidation. The main features of development are:—

- (i) *The active reconditioning of the weak societies* : A thorough inquiry is made into the financial condition of societies which have failed to repay their loans to the central banks. For societies which are solvent and give hope of improvement programmes of repayment are drawn up after scaling down their debts. Societies, in which reconstruction is not likely to be successful are taken into liquidation.
- (ii) *The introduction of the controlled credit system* : Under this, loans are advanced for agricultural operations and regulated according to the area of cultivation and the kind of crops. Members are required to sell their produce jointly or through a sale society, so that recoveries might be facilitated.
- (iii) *Insistence on the quality of the movement in respect of future extension* : New rural credit societies are registered only when the need is clearly established and they have succeeded in enlisting the co-operation of disinterested workers. Exceptions are made, however, in case of backward classes and areas, where credit and thrift societies are encouraged. Special steps were taken during the year to organize thrift and credit societies for the benefit of the labourers in the mills and factories.
- (iv) *The organisation of multi-purpose societies* : The department devoted attention to forms of non-credit work so as to emphasise the primary idea of co-operation, namely thrift, and make the co-operative society the centre of village life, embracing all its activities. The expansion of co-operative sale of cotton is a notable development.
- (v) *Education in co-operative methods* : The methods of training members and secretaries in the co-operative institute were found to be inefficient. The curriculum is being revised and text books are under preparation,

As regards auditors, the Government have taken steps to ensure efficiency by (1) prescribing a four months' course of training before independent charge is given, and (2) organising refresher classes for auditors in service.

- (vi) *Execution of decrees*: Steps were taken to avoid delay in recoveries and special recovery officers were engaged for the Baroda and Mehsana districts.

287. GENERAL SURVEY — The total number of societies increased from 1,294 to 1,303. Of these, 216 were under liquidation. There were 1,087 societies actually working as against 1,052 during the preceding year. Of these, 925 were credit societies, consisting of 643 agricultural credit societies, 97 thrift societies, 172 non-agricultural, 9 central banks, 2 land mortgage banks and 2 supervising unions. Of the 162 non-credit societies, 101 were agricultural and 61 non-agricultural.

Of the 643 agricultural societies working during the year, 634 were classified and 122 were placed in class A (thoroughly good); 214 in class B (having defaulters and mistakes in accounts), 197 in class C (not falling under class A, B or D), 101 in class D (bad and liable to be closed if they fail to come under class C in two years). The percentage of D class societies declined from 19.7 to 17.1 at the end of the year while that of A class went up from 13.7 to 19.2. B and C class societies were promoted to higher classes and therefore register a drop in percentage. 9 societies were not classified, being newly registered.

The total membership increased from 71,532 to 75,825. The average membership per society was 58.2 as against 55.2 in the preceding year. It is estimated that the movement directly affects 12 per cent of the population — the agricultural societies about 8.0 per cent of the village population and the non-agricultural about 25.4 per cent of the town population.

The financial position showed an all round improvement. The working capital increased from Rs. 117.84 lakhs to Rs. 137.99 lakhs. The share capital increased from Rs. 14.95 lakhs to Rs. 17.27 lakhs; the deposits from members from Rs. 37.91 lakhs to Rs. 45.21 lakhs; loans and deposits from non-members from Rs. 21.78 lakhs to Rs. 27.82 lakhs; while the loans from banks, societies and Government together increased from Rs. 18.21 lakhs to Rs. 21.18 lakhs. The reserve and other funds increased from Rs. 19.98 lakhs to Rs. 21.51 lakhs. Owned capital formed 28.1 per cent of the working capital, loans and deposits 68.3 per cent and debentures 3.6 per cent as against 29.6, 66.1 and 4.2 per cent respectively during the preceding year.

The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 52.72 lakhs as against Rs. 40.77 lakhs in the preceding year. The repayment improved from Rs. 38.37 lakhs to Rs. 46.76 lakhs and the outstanding loans at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 73.42 lakhs as against Rs. 67.78 lakhs in the preceding year. The overdues fell from Rs. 12.08 lakhs to Rs. 10.9 lakhs. The decrease in overdues is accounted for by the rise in prices of agricultural products.

The total value of non-credit work increased from Rs. 38.34 lakhs to Rs. 59.56 lakhs - Rs. 41.23 lakhs being on account of cotton, Rs. 1.31 lakhs on account of sugarcane and Rs. 17.02 lakhs on account of purchase and supply of household goods, seeds, manure, implements etc. including sugar, kerosene and standard cloth. This does not include 3,874 bales of cotton approximately worth Rs. 11.64 lakhs belonging to Baben ginning factory and the Karjan centre society remaining unsold.

288. CO-OPERATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES — The co-operative societies did valuable work in the distribution of grain, sugar, kerosene and other necessities of life not only to their members but also to other people in the rural areas. It is estimated that the sales by the societies amounted to Rs. 19.35 lakhs in the year.

289. LAND MORTGAGE BANKS — There are two land mortgage banks in the State.

The Baroda Land Mortgage Bank continued operations in the Baroda district, except in the Petlad and Bhadrán talukas. Its share capital increased from Rs. 1.43 lakhs to Rs. 1.75 lakhs. Its reserve fund amounted to Rs. 0.61 lakh at the end of the year and the working capital rose from Rs. 7.39 lakhs to Rs. 7.63 lakhs.

The bank advanced fresh loans amounting to Rs. 0.17 lakh to 10 persons against Rs. 0.8 lakh to 47 persons during the preceding year. The decrease in demand for fresh loans is due to the rise of prices of agricultural produce, particularly cotton, which helped the agriculturists to pay off their debts. Moreover the debtors were inclined to part with portions of their properties and pay off debts rather than borrow from the bank—the result of large increase in land values. The total amount of loans advanced since the beginning of the bank 9 years ago, came to Rs. 9.02 lakhs for liquidation of debts amounting to Rs. 10.66 lakhs, the debts having been scaled down through conciliation by Rs. 1.6 lakhs. All instalments were repaid, the total recoveries during the year being Rs. 1.34 lakhs. The outstanding loans fell from Rs. 6.29 lakhs to Rs. 5.52 lakhs. The bank's rate of interest on loans continued to be 6%. The net profit of the bank was Rs. 19,099 as against Rs. 19,051 in 1941-42.

The Navsari Land Mortgage Bank continued operations in all the talukas of the district. The share capital increased from

Rs. 40,800 to Rs. 41,275. The Government have made available to the bank a special loan of rupees one lakh for advancing loans to the Raniparaj societies to enable their members to liquidate their debts. The working capital of the bank increased from Rs. 1.63 lakhs to Rs. 1.78 lakhs. Loans amounting to Rs. 0.28 lakh were advanced to 29 persons. The debts of these borrowers amounting to Rs. 0.31 lakh were settled for Rs. 0.28 lakh through conciliation. The total loans advanced by the bank since its inception in 1939-40 amounted to Rs. 1.94 lakhs, the total debts having been scaled down by 15 per cent. All borrowers except one repaid their instalments during the year. The reserve fund of the bank amounted to Rs. 1,654 at the end of the year. The Government gave a grant of Rs. 783 equal to half the cost of management during the year.

The Government gave the following concessions to these banks :-

- (1) The repayment of the principal and interest of debentures is guaranteed.
- (2) Land valuation officers are lent to the banks free of charge in the initial stages, and a grant is given towards the expenses of management.

290. **CENTRAL BANKS** — There were ten Central banks, including banking unions. Of these, one had not started work and one was under liquidation. There were 8 banks actually working at the end of the year. These banks had a total membership of 1,918 consisting of 1,090 individuals and 828 societies. These banks usually finance only the affiliated societies but the Baroda, Petlad and Mehsana Central banks have been permitted to finance individuals, so that they might be able to utilize their surplus funds. These three banks together advanced loans to the extent of Rs. 2.81 lakhs during the year.

The working capital of these institutions increased from Rs. 17.64 lakhs to Rs. 20.36 lakhs. The share capital rose from Rs. 3.46 lakhs to Rs. 3.61 lakhs. The deposits from members and non-members increased from Rs. 6.39 lakhs to Rs. 7.16 lakhs while loans and deposits from banks, societies and Government increased from Rs. 4.76 lakhs to Rs. 6.48 lakhs. The reserve and other funds increased from Rs. 3.02 lakhs to Rs. 3.10 lakhs. Six of these banks are allowed an aggregate cash credit of Rs. 4 lakhs by the Government. The Government have also sanctioned in 1939-40 a deposit of Rs. 40,000 for five years to the Kodinar Banking Union.

The loans advanced during the year increased from Rs. 6.76 lakhs to Rs. 9.21 lakhs. The increase is due to larger lending to individuals. The recoveries improved by 50 per cent from Rs. 5.45 lakhs to Rs. 8.28 lakhs. The outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 12.53 lakhs as against Rs. 11.60 lakhs at the end of the preceding year. The overdues decreased from 14.2 to 13.8 per cent and amounted to Rs. 1.71 lakhs at the end of the year.

The banks made a total profit of Rs. 42,550 during the year. The dividend paid varied from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

291. NON-CREDIT WORK OF CENTRAL BANK — Four of these institutions viz. Mehsana and Damnagar banks and Kodinar and Karjan-Sinor Unions, did non-credit work during the year. The Mehsana bank distributed sugar to 107 villages through the societies and also purchased and supplied food grains, cotton seeds and molasses worth Rs. 1.01 lakhs. The Kodinar Union distributed sugar to 62 villages and purchased and supplied wheat, rice and juwar, worth Rs. 0.87 lakh. The Damnagar Bank bought and supplied to cultivators in the taluka ground-nut and sesamum seeds worth Rs. 6,762. The Sinor-Karjan Union supplied soap worth Rs. 552 to the members of the societies affiliated to it.

292. AGRICULTURAL BANKS — There are four agricultural banks in the State—at Bhadran, Amreli, Vyara and Songadh. They are governed by a special Act and advance loans to societies as well as individuals. They have a total membership of 1,424, comprising 1,270 individuals and 154 societies. Their total working capital amounted to Rs. 9.21 lakhs as against Rs. 7.26 lakhs in the preceding year. Their share capital increased from Rs. 1.77 lakhs to Rs. 1.79 lakhs and the reserve fund increased from Rs. 1.37 lakhs to Rs. 1.39 lakhs. The deposits registered a sharp increase and stood at Rs. 6.03 lakhs as against Rs. 4.11 lakhs at the end of the preceding year. Fresh loans advanced during the year dropped from Rs. 0.87 lakh to Rs. 0.49 lakh while recoveries improved from Rs. 1.09 lakhs to Rs. 1.38 lakhs. Their outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 1.54 lakhs as against Rs. 2.43 lakhs at the end of the preceding year. The rate of interest of the Bhadran bank was 6 per cent while that of the other banks was $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The Vyara bank is allowed cash credit to the extent of Rs. 10,000 by the Government.

The Vyara, Amreli and Bhadran banks did non-credit work during the year. They purchased and distributed food grains, sugar, kerosene etc. worth Rs. 3.18 lakhs.

293. SUPERVISION UNIONS — The Vyara and the Mangrol supervising unions continued their activities. The Vyara Union had 57 societies affiliated to it, with a membership of 2,128 and a working capital of Rs. 2.34 lakhs. This union looks after and supervises 22 thrift societies with a membership of 480 and savings to the extent of Rs. 7,900. The Mangrol Union had 52 societies affiliated to it with a membership of 1,383 and a working capital of Rs. 2.94 lakhs. Each of these unions maintains 3 supervisors. The total expenditure of both the unions amounted to Rs. 2,424.

Through the efforts of the Vyara Union, 267 members of 16 societies started spinning and weaving and spun 1,092 lbs. of cotton, either for their own use or for wages.

294. **AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES** — The total number of agricultural societies increased from 1,023 to 1,027. Of these, 186 societies were under liquidation. Thus, the number of societies actually working during the year was 841 as against 826 in the preceding year. Of these, 740 societies were primary credit societies as against 726 during the preceding year. The non-credit societies increased from 100 to 101.

The membership of the agricultural societies increased from 37,192 to 38,100 and the average membership increased from 36.3 to 37.1 at the end of the year.

The working capital of these societies increased from Rs. 41.98 lakhs to Rs. 52.99 lakhs. The share capital rose from Rs. 2.66 lakhs to Rs. 3.56 lakhs, the increase being due to organisation of new co-operative stores and sale of shares of the co-operative ginning factory at Samlaya in Baroda district. The deposits from members increased from Rs. 7.65 to Rs. 10.91 lakhs while loans and deposits from non-members increased from Rs. 6.74 lakhs to Rs. 11 lakhs. The loans and deposits from banks, societies and Government increased from Rs. 11.93 lakhs to Rs. 13.28 lakhs.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 28.87 lakhs as against Rs. 18.20 lakhs during the preceding year. The sudden rise was due to a larger demand for advances against cotton by the sale societies. The repayments improved from Rs. 16.99 lakhs to Rs. 22.95 lakhs. The outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 35.11 lakhs against Rs. 29.19 lakhs at the end of the preceding year. The overdues decreased from Rs. 8.53 lakhs to Rs. 6.48 lakhs and formed 18.4 percent of the outstanding loans as against 29.2 percent in the previous year.

295. **RECONSTRUCTED SOCIETIES** — Since 1938, when the policy of reconstructing societies was adopted 190 societies have been reconstructed, of which 11 societies were reconstructed during the year. 123 societies were indebted to the banks and 67 worked with their own capital. Of the former, 101 societies fully paid their instalments to the banks while 17 have paid partially and 5 could not pay at all.

The dues of these societies from members at the time of the reconstruction were Rs. 7.51 lakhs principal and Rs. 2.16 lakhs interest. The principal and interest due during the year amounted to Rs. 1.21 lakhs of which 93 per cent could be recovered during the year. The total recoveries however amounted to Rs. 1.25 lakhs principal and Rs. 0.39 lakh interest as some of the members paid in excess of the instalments due. Rs. 0.17 lakh were written off. The repayments were satisfactory in all the districts.

296. PROVIDENT FUND — 14 new societies adopted the provident fund scheme during the year. This brought the total of societies with the Provident Fund Scheme to 167 at the end of the year. 2,438 members took advantage of it during the year as against 2,149 in the preceding year. The total funds after deducting the amount of Rs. 0.16 lakh paid back to members according to the bye-laws amounted to Rs. 1.30 lakhs as against Rs. 1.33 lakhs in the previous year. Of the 167 societies, 39 have adopted bye-laws permitting the payment of premiums from the interest of provident fund and compulsory savings of their members to enable them to take advantage of the co-operative insurance scheme.

297. NON-CREDIT WORK OF CREDIT SOCIETIES — Some of these societies continued their efforts to introduce better kinds of seeds and increased use of artificial manure. They supplied 8,958 maunds of pedigree seeds of cotton, ground-nut and wheat worth Rs. 23,757, 4 winnowing machines, 4 Baroda hoes, 3 iron ploughs worth Rs. 753 and 2,195 maunds of artificial manure worth Rs. 5,002. 156 societies also distributed sugar, kerosene and food grains worth Rs. 6,51,919, and 5,472 yards of cloth worth Rs. 6,517.

298. B. D. 8 COTTON ORGANISATION — Two new societies were organised during the year for the cultivation of B. D. 8 cotton, which with the 13 societies existing at the end of the preceding year made a total of 15 societies for propaganda and seed organisation purposes. These are situated in the Dabhoi, Sankheda and Tilakwada mahals. They distributed 1,250 maunds of B. D. 8 cotton seeds to their members as against 1,384 maunds in the previous year. The area under cultivation of B. D. 8 cotton decreased from 12,302 to 7,373 bighas as a result of the "grow more food" campaign.

In the Karjan taluka 5 resource societies and one centre society distributed 60,120 lbs. of B. D. 8 cotton seeds to 312 members and they sowed about 10,764 bighas with these seeds.

Before the end of the year the cotton control Act was applied to the Baroda district and B. D. 8 has been made compulsory in Dabhoi, Sankheda, Tilakwada, Karjan, Sinor, Baroda and Padra talukas and B. 9 in Savli and Waghodia talukas.

Crop loans amounting to Rs. 32,366 were given at 4 per cent on condition that the produce was sold through the society and all these were recovered before the end of the year. The scheme is under the supervision of an independent auditor.

299. THRIFT SOCIETIES — 89 thrift societies were working in the beginning of the year. 9 new societies were registered and one was under liquidation, leaving 97 societies actually working at the end of the year. Of these, one was men's society and the remaining were women's societies,

The membership increased from 1,831 to 2,011, savings from Rs. 18,186 to Rs. 21,961, reserve fund from Rs. 917 to Rs. 996 and working capital from Rs. 20,410 to Rs. 24,576.

300. CATTLE BREEDING SOCIETIES — There is only one society for cattle breeding started at Dethli in Sidhpur taluka. It has advanced loans amounting to Rs. 260 to four of its members.

301. PRODUCTION AND SALE SOCIETIES — The number of these societies decreased from 52 to 50. Of these, 36 were for sale of cotton, one each for pure milk, sugarcane, and ground-nut and 11 for sale of other agricultural produce. The ground-nut and pure milk societies did not work during the year.

302. COTTON — The cotton sale societies collected 11,291 bhars of cotton belonging to 3,125 members. Of these, 9,688 bhars were ginned and sold and 1,603 bhars were sold unginned. The total realisations from sale of cotton amounted to Rs. 29.39 lakhs. 7 societies did not work during the year. Joint sale resulted in fetching better prices to the cultivators to the extent of Rs. 15 to 25 per bhar.

303. SUGARCANE — The Gandevi Sugarcane Growers' Association had 1,071 members on its register, as against 981 in the preceding year. It sold 1.82 lakh maunds of cane to the local factory and realised Rs. 1.13 lakhs. It supplied cane seed and manure worth Rs. 16,881 to its members.

304. CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS — There were 41 such societies of which 22 were cancelled during the year, and 12 are under liquidation. Most of the remaining societies are stagnant, and no appreciable work is being done by them.

305. SOCIETIES FOR SUPPLY OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS — Five supply societies were working at the beginning of the year and two were under liquidation. 5 new societies were added during the year, making a total of 12 societies at the end of the year. 9 of these societies with a membership of 1,851 and a share capital of Rs. 50,535 worked very well during the year. They purchased wheat, rice, millets, sugar, kerosene etc. worth Rs. 4.1 lakhs and supplied these commodities to members and even to non-members, where they were permitted to do so. Their profits amounted to Rs. 13,247 at the end of the year.

306. CO-OPERATIVE GINNING AND PRESSING SOCIETIES — All the three co-operative ginning and pressing factories viz. Baben and Kosamba in the Navsari district and Samlaya in the Baroda district, worked during the year. These factories together ginned 15,088 bhars of cotton. The ginning rate varied from Rs. 7½ to Rs. 10, while the rate for pressing was Rs. 15 at the highest and Rs. 10½ at the lowest.

307. POWER PUMP SOCIETIES — There were 9 power pump societies during the year of which, two were ordered to be wound up. The remaining 7 societies supplied water to 152 members during the

year as against 167 members during the preceding year. The area irrigated dropped from 693 bighas to 217 bighas, the fall being due to the restricted supply of crude oil. These pumps worked for 4,957 hours. Irrigation charges varied from 12 annas to Rs. 2 per hour. The Government have given loans to these societies; the outstanding dues decreased from Rs. 5,865 to Rs. 2,851 at the end of the year.

308. DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATIONS — Of the 28 development associations in the beginning of the year, five were under liquidation and 2 were cancelled during the year. Three of these — at Vankal, Pipodra and Mangrol — in the Navsari district, and two at Sander and Sankhari in the Mehsana district did useful work like carding, spinning, weaving and distributing pure seeds. They looked after village sanitation and rendered medical aid in their areas.

309. PRIMARY EDUCATION SOCIETIES — There are 3 such societies — at Verakui, Nandola and Isanpur in the Mangrol taluka. They impart training upto the IV class and have in all 101 students. They received Rs. 263 as gifts and spent Rs. 281 on the staff.

310. NON-AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES — The number of registered societies was 262. Of these 199 were credit and thrift societies, 11 supply societies, 20 students' stores, 28 housing societies, one each for electric supply and insurance and two others. 29 or 11 per cent of these societies were under liquidation. 233 societies were actually working during the year as against 213 during the preceding year.

The membership of these societies increased from 30,119 to 33,421. The increase in membership was due to the organisation of societies for labourers in mills and factories. The working capital increased from Rs. 49.20 lakhs to Rs. 55.24 lakhs. The share capital increased from Rs. 6.99 lakhs to Rs. 7.63 lakhs, deposits from members from Rs. 30.26 lakhs to Rs. 34.30 lakhs, deposits from non-members from Rs. 7.19 lakhs to Rs. 8.39 lakhs, while loans and deposits from banks, societies and Government decreased from Rs. 1.32 lakhs to Rs. 1.07 lakhs. The reserve and other funds increased from Rs. 3.44 lakhs to Rs. 3.85 lakhs.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 14.19 lakhs as against Rs. 14.36 lakhs during the preceding year. Repayments declined from Rs. 15.35 lakhs to Rs. 14.47 lakhs. The outstandings at the end of the year decreased from Rs. 19.10 lakhs to Rs. 18.82 lakhs while overdues recorded a slight increase from 9.9 to 10.1 per cent.

311. URBAN BANKS — The urban banks continued to render useful services and are progressing satisfactorily. The following table gives comparative figures for the last two years:—

Subject	1942-43	1941-42
No. of urban banks.	47	31
Membership.	17,883	15,450

Subject	1942-43	1941-42
	Rupees in lakhs	
Share capital.	4.96	4.48
Deposits.	34.99	29.39
Reserve fund.	2.64	2.35
Total working capital.	42.88	36.45
Loans advanced.	11.9	11.12
Loans repaid.	10.99	12.02
Loans outstanding.	14.25	14.15

The increase in the number of banks is mainly due to organization of societies of the mill and factory workers.

312. GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' SOCIETIES — There were 15 such societies with a membership of 4,415 and a working capital of Rs. 4.39 lakhs of which the share capital represented Rs. 0.98 lakh, deposits Rs. 3.14 lakhs and reserve and other funds Rs. 0.26 lakh. Rs. 2.43 lakhs were recovered during the year and outstanding loans amounted to Rs. 3.23 lakhs at the end of the year.

313. WEAVERS' SOCIETIES — There were 54 such societies. Of these, 7 were cancelled and 4 were newly registered leaving 51 societies actually working during the year. They had a membership of 855 and a working capital of Rs. 26,664. Loans to the extent of Rs. 8,284 were advanced and Rs. 8,018 were recovered during the year. The outstanding loans were Rs. 23,294 at the end of the year.

314. TANNERS' SOCIETIES — There were 28 societies with a membership of 433 and a working capital of Rs. 18,737 including the share capital of Rs. 719. Loans amounting to Rs. 9,944 were advanced during the year and Rs. 9,180 were recovered, leaving Rs. 16,931 as outstanding loans at the end of the year.

315. SWEEPERS' SOCIETIES — There were 22 societies to which one was added during the year and two were under liquidation. They had a membership of 1,249 and a working capital of Rs. 0.57 lakh, of which Rs. 0.15 lakh formed share capital, Rs. 0.23 lakh were deposits and Rs. 0.13 lakh reserve fund. Rs. 0.24 lakh were advanced as loans and Rs. 0.24 lakh were paid, leaving Rs. 0.46 lakh as outstanding loans at the end of the year.

316. FLOOD RELIEF SOCIETIES — The Government had advanced loans amounting to Rs. 5.46 lakhs to 63 flood relief societies specially organised to enable members to rebuild their houses after the floods of 1927. The members belonged to the poorer classes who earn their living by daily labour. The outstanding loans due from 21 societies without interest at the beginning of the year were Rs. 12,850 of which Rs. 7,499 were recovered during the year leaving Rs. 5,751 to be realised from the debtor societies which are now only six in number.

317. **THRIFT SOCIETIES** — 20 thrift societies worked during the year. Of these, 4 with a membership of 70 were men's societies and 16 were women's societies with a membership of 527. The total working capital increased by 40 per cent from Rs. 12,531 to Rs. 17,532 including savings amounting to Rs. 16,735 and reserve fund of Rs. 478.

318. **URBAN STORES** — There were six urban stores and five more were added during the year. Of these, one could not start work during the year. The Pustakalaya mandal with a membership of 640 and a share capital of Rs. 40,700 sold books worth Rs. 53,031 at a profit of Rs. 4,960. The Baroda Milk depot purchased milk worth Rs. 23,288 and supplied it to its 389 members. It could not make any profit this year. The other stores supplied household goods worth Rs. 2.49 lakhs and earned a total profit of Rs. 14,306.

319. **STUDENTS' STORES** — Twenty students' stores worked during the year. Their membership rose from 1,830 to 1,960, but their working capital decreased from Rs. 4,605 to Rs. 4,308. They supplied materials worth Rs. 5,274 as against Rs. 5,628 during the preceding year and made a profit of Rs. 622.

320. **CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY** — The society accepted 208 proposals out of 236 during the year for Rs. 1.41 lakhs. It had in force in all 683 policies for Rs. 3.94 lakhs at the end of the year. It received Rs. 21,272 as premium and paid claims of 4 persons amounting to Rs. 2,093 during the year. The expense ratio decreased from 60 per cent to 42 per cent. 39 primary societies have obtained its agency for the benefit of their members.

321. **HOUSING SOCIETIES** — These societies increased from 21 to 28 during the year. Of these, 17 are in the Baroda district, 5 in the Navsari district, 5 in the Mehsana district and one in the Amreli district. Four of these societies have completed building houses and five have obtained possession of lands. Acquisition of land for the rest of the societies is undertaken by the Public Works department.

322. **THE CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE** — The Institute has a membership of 1,069 — 574 societies and 495 individuals. It received Rs. 1,931 as fees from the members, and obtained a subsidy of Rs. 1,000 from the Baroda District Local Board for its work of extensive propaganda in the district. It has 11 taluka institutes affiliated to it. The institute did propaganda work through stalls put up in Jagudan on the farmers' day and in Mehsana on the occasion of the cattle show. The Institute continued to edit "Gram Jivan" a monthly magazine, dealing with co-operation, agriculture and topics of rural interest. The Government paid Rs. 3,273 towards the expenses of the Institute during the year.

323. **CONCLUSION** — The following table shows the progress of the co-operative movement in the State during the last five years :—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Year	Number of societies	Number of members	Share capital	Deposits from members	Loans and deposits from non-members	Loans and deposits from other societies and banks	Loans from Government	Debentures	Reserve and other funds	Total working capital	Fresh loans advanced	Repayments of loans by the members	Loans outstanding at the end of the year
1938-39	1,244	60,379	11.45	29.88	23.18	12.72	0.95	...	17.13	95.31	24.38	22.12	67.20
1939-40	1,297	65,920	12.37	30.24	20.57	16.67	1.08	3.42	17.63	101.98	27.25	28.41	66.04
1940-41	1,303	67,953	13.55	34.00	22.15	16.75	0.76	4.00	18.59	109.80	29.62	30.08	65.58
1941-42	1,294	71,532	14.95	37.52	21.78	17.37	0.94	5.00	19.98	117.84	40.77	38.57	67.78
1942-43	1,303	75,825	17.27	45.21	27.82	19.75	1.43	5.00	21.51	137.99	52.72	46.76	73.74

CHAPTER XVII

COMMERCE

Development of Port Okha

324. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE — The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of Port Okha during the year as compared with the preceding year, in lakhs of rupees :—

Item	Revenue		Expenditure	
	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42
Port	4.34	5.02	2.60	2.29
Customs at Okha including sub-ports.	38.60	25.17	.92	0.77

Cargo, paying duty of the value of Rs. 21.64 lakhs was in bond at the end of the year as against Rs. 10.52 lakhs at the end of the preceding year.

325. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE — Capital expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 56,954 and the receipts from capital works Rs. 5,044. The total capital expenditure upto the end of the year amounted to Rs. 49.24 lakhs.

326. SHIPPING AND TRADE — There was a reduction in the number of steamers that called at Okha. The individual average shipment, however, showed an increase especially in case of cement, and the export tonnage was maintained. 1,42,000 tons of cement and 55,000 tons of salt were exported as against 1,37,000 of cement and 30,000 tons of salt during the preceding year. The programme of shipment of railway rolling stock and material on behalf of military authorities was completed during the year. The total cargo handled was 2,94,702 tons as against 2,49,116 tons in the preceding year.

The details of shipping and cargo handled at Port Okha during the year as compared with the previous year are shown below :—

Particulars	Number of vessels	Cargo imported in tons	Cargo exported in tons	Total cargo handled in tons
COUNTRY CRAFT				
1941-42	722	5,051	21,217	26,268
1942-43	554	3,333	19,051	22,384
COASTING STEAMERS				
1941-42	14	486	11,561	12,047
1942-43	14	1,434	12,191	13,625
OCEAN-GOING STEAMERS				
1941-42	80	41,223	1,69,578	2,10,801
1942-43	59	50,819	1,81,874	2,38,693
Total				
1941-42	816	46,760	2,02,456	2,49,116
1942-43	627	61,586	2,13,116	2,74,702

Development of Commerce

327. **TAX FREE ZONES** — Areas of factories and mills were excluded from the tax free zones, in view of the special concessions given to such industrial concerns.

328. **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES** — The weights and measures inspectors verified and stamped 16,443 beam scales, platform machines, weighing bridges etc. The total income from verification and stamping fees was Rs. 7,932. There were 71 prosecutions all of which resulted in convictions.

329. **PATENTS AND DESIGNS** — During the year under report no patent was sealed. 20 patents were renewed or extended. The total number of patents in force at the end of the year was 25 as against 40 in the previous year. The patents were mostly for improvements in machinery.

330. **ELECTORAL ROLL** — A fresh electoral roll of the Commerce and Industries constituency was prepared during the year, as required under section 38 of the Dhara Sabha Electoral Rules.

331. **CONTROL ORDERS** — As war measures, Control orders in respect of rubber, cotton, newsprints, oil seeds, tyres etc. which were promulgated in British India were made applicable in the State with suitable changes.

332. THE STATE ECONOMIC BOARD—In addition to its function of advising the Government in all questions relating to the economic development of the State, communications and marketing, it is the Board's duty

- (i) to co-ordinate the activities of the district economic boards and
- (ii) to assist the development departments in working out important schemes and in making intensive studies of important questions.

In each district there is an economic board constituted on lines similar to the Central Board. These boards held 19 meetings in the year, and dealt with 37 questions regarding issue of licenses to motor vehicles plying for hire, construction of roads and bridges etc. The State Economic Board held 4 meetings and considered 37 questions including 23 recommendations made by the district economic boards.

CHAPTER XVIII

INDUSTRIES

333. GOVERNMENT POLICY — The policy of His Highness' Government is to give assistance for starting new or developing existing industries in the following ways:

Firstly, surveys and scientific experiments and investigations are carried out and the results are made known. Grants are also made in aid of surveys, experiments, etc., conducted by private persons or institutions.

Secondly, the State participates in the financing of pioneer industries by subscribing a portion of the share capital or by giving loans.

Thirdly, concessions in respect of octroi duties, acquisition of land, etc., are granted.

Fourthly, the maintenance of an efficient system of banking.

Fifthly, the encouragement of healthy co-operation between labour and capital by a policy of progressive labour legislation and the effective settlement of labour disputes.

334. RESEARCH — Investigation into the manufacture of cream of tartar, rochelle salt, tartar emetic and the ethyl of alcohol available from tamarind pulp was continued. The tamarind seeds were worked up for their pectin matter.

Experiments on dehydration of castor oil so that it might be used as a substitute for drying oils are being conducted. A product obtained in these experiments has been found useful in lithographic varnishes. Experiments on manufacture of oxalic acid from Sadada bark (*Terminalia Arjuna*) and gallic acid and pyrogallol from gall nuts have been completed, and these products are being manufactured in the laboratory on a small scale.

Investigations into the manufacture of lithographic varnishes, inks and pigments were carried out. A small scale plant for manufacturing easter gum has been designed, fabricated and worked; it has been found that easter gum has important uses in varnish and paint industry.

Investigation about Vyara clay which has been described as exceedingly fine grained silicious substance useful for glass, absorbant abrasive, etc., was undertaken. This clay is being tested for decolourizing of oils etc. Experiments on the activating of the clay are in progress.

Preliminary work for preparing diethyl sulphate has well advanced and further work is in progress.

Investigations into the manufacture of starch from cheno-panicum miliacium—which principally grows in Gujerat, were carried out. Starch obtained from this cheno has been found to possess almost the same properties as maize starch. Large scale experiments on starch manufacture from this cereal appear to be promising.

More than 150 samples of minerals, chemicals, etc., were tested and analytical reports supplied to the parties concerned.

The work of supplying writing inks to Government offices and institutions was undertaken by the Industrial Chemist Laboratory. Cattle dip was manufactured and supplied to the Government of India.

335. CONCESSIONS — The department received 77 applications during the year as against 47 in the preceding year, for concessions for the development of various industries. Of these 32 were sanctioned. 11 were for acquisition of land for factories and 1 for loan for industrial purposes. During the year, the Government sanctioned loans to industrial concerns of an aggregate amount of Rs. 5,000.

336. MINING — 5 approval certificates were granted and 5 were renewed.

Major industries

337. TEXTILE — The textile industry continued to show progress under the impetus of the conditions created by the war. The cotton mills increased their production by 12 per cent, but the value of the produce of the woollen mills decreased by Rs. 6.25 lakhs as compared with the previous year.

Cotton Mills — 18 cotton mills were working in the State, of which 8 were in the Baroda district, 7 in the Mehsana and 3 in the Navsari district. Their consumption of cotton decreased from 1,31,000 bales to 1,08,631 bales. Of this, 75 per cent was Indian cotton as against 72 per cent in the previous year. The number of looms decreased from 6,932 to 6,927 and spindles increased from 3,28,232 to 3,32,208. The capital invested came to Rs. 504 lakhs. The number of persons employed decreased from 24,713 to 23,982.

and the total yarn produced decreased from 431 lakh lbs. to 342 lakh lbs. The progress of the textile industry during the last seven years can be seen from the following table :—

Year		Number of Mils	Capital in Rs. (lakhs)	Number of looms	Number of spindles	Persons employed	Yarn produced lbs. (lakhs)
1935-36	...	14	248	5,865	2,81,000	12,900	231
1936-37	...	15	290	6,206	2,78,000	15,300	288
1937-38	...	16	304	6,771	3,24,000	18,600	358
1938-39	...	16	320	6,914	3,34,500	19,000	344
1939-40	...	16	317	7,110	3,32,100	20,200	332
1940-41	...	16	384	6,874	3,25,732	22,726	398
1941-42	...	18	380	6,932	3,28,232	24,713	431
1942-43	...	18	504	6,927	3,32,208	23,982	342

Woollen Mills — Shree Dinesh Mills, Ltd., was engaged in the execution of orders for war supplies and manufactured 25,570 blankets and 2,17,172 yards of cloth. The value of the output decreased from Rs. 18.25 lakhs to Rs. 12 lakhs.

338. **CHEMICAL** — The Tata Chemicals, Ltd., started in 1939 with a paid up capital of Rs. 125 lakhs made considerable progress. Heavy chemicals like liquid chlorine, caustic soda, bleaching powder, zinc chloride, potassium bromide, etc., were produced. The manufacture of salt and its bye-products was continued, the production in the year being 43,898 tons.

The Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd., continued to manufacture drugs, fine chemicals, etc. There are two other chemical works: the Petlad Chemical Works and the Hira Chemical Works. Both manufacture mainly sulphuric acid. A plant for the manufacture of sodium sulphite has been installed by the latter.

339. **SUGAR** — The Gandevis sugar factory obtained and crushed 2,50,234 Bengal maunds of sugarcane during the year. The production amounted to 18,339 Bengal maunds of sugar and 10,800 Bengal maunds of molasses. The excise duty realised by the State was Rs. 40,421.

340. **MATCHES** — The Datar match factory at Petlad produced 1,71,222 gross matches in 1942-43 as against 3,68,658 in the previous year. The Billimora match factory ceased to work from 1-11-1942. The total excise duty collected amounted to Rs. 3.95 lakhs as against Rs. 10.02 lakhs in the previous year.

341. **CHINA CLAY** — The China Clay Works at Ransipur refined 932 tons of China clay during the year as compared to 910 tons in the previous year, and paid a royalty of Rs. 2,798 as against Rs. 2,731 in the previous year.

342. **WAR EFFORT** — The industries of the State are taking their share in supplying articles, required for the war, to the Government of India.

The intensification of the war effort gave further stimulus to State industries and industrial production and afforded scope for adequate employment on good wages to large number of workers and employees in the textile mills. The production capacity of factories in the State has considerably increased and new factories have been set up.

343. **TECHNICAL TRAINING** — Arrangement was made for training of war technicians such as mechanics, fitters, turners, electricians, mill-wrights at the Kala-Bhavan technical institute and the G. B. S. Railway workshop at Baroda and the Tata industrial school at Navsari. Out of 299 candidates who were admitted for training in the above centres, 131 trainees were sent to the army training centres before deputing them for active service.

344. **RECRUITMENT** — Government granted permission for recruitment on voluntary basis of technical and clerical personnel by the Government of India from amongst the subjects of the State including Government servants. About 50 such applications were forwarded to the provincial recruiting officers.

Cottage industries

345. **COTTAGE INDUSTRIES** — For the development of cottage industries in the State, the Government maintain the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute in Baroda, and in the villages a large number of training classes, where scholarships are given to students. The Government also give grants-in-aid to private institutions, which promote the development of cottage industries, and loans for starting them.

346. **DIAMOND JUBILEE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES INSTITUTE** — During the year, there were 46 students in the institute, 8 learning calico printing, 8 block engraving, 5 lacquer work, 16 in metal class and 9 in the brass stool and wood carving classes. They prepared articles worth Rs. 3,325 out of which articles worth Rs. 3,136 were sold.

Calico printing class for women — The assistance of a demonstrator was continued to Shree Chimnabai Stree Udyogalaya for training middle and backward class women in dyeing and calico

printing. Scholarships worth Rs. 50 per month were given and an amount of Rs. 200 was sanctioned by the Government for purchasing printing blocks. 22 women received training during the year and 8 of them have completed the two years' course.

Sales depot — The sales depot of the institute organised to provide marketing facilities for the products of different cottage industries in the State did useful work. Articles of wood carving, metal work, leather work, lacquer work and printing materials of various shapes, sizes and designs were exhibited and prepared on orders. The total value of the sales was Rs. 7,070-8-0 as against Rs. 6,007 in the previous year.

The system of advancing 60% of the price on finished articles exhibited for sale in the sales depot was continued.

347. DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE VILLAGES — Demonstration classes in handloom weaving were held at Zarola, Kungher, Ranuj, Unjha and Deoli (Kathiawar). The total number of students trained was 191 as against 144 in the previous year. Cloth worth Rs. 3,175 was produced in these classes.

Demonstration classes in carding and spinning were held at Zarola, Deoli and Kadodara (Kodinar) and 109 persons were trained as against 86 in the previous year. The farmers of the Kodinar taluka round about Deoli followed the Vastra Swavalamban scheme. 256 families from Deoli and Kadodara have prepared 422 pieces of cloth each 24 yards long, 14 chofals and 67 dhotis, together worth Rs. 3,933.

30 persons were trained in the calico printing classes at Chanasma and Kungher. Experiments were carried out by the calico printing demonstrator in dyeing with vegetable mineral dyes which were cheaper than foreign synthetic dyes and are now being used by local weavers for dyeing yarn. The weavers and khattris dyed 3,930 lbs. of yarn with vegetable dyes and 1,266 lbs. of yarn with foreign dyes. The persons in the villages who were trained printed about 996 yards of cloth.

Improved methods of bark tanning were demonstrated to Chamars and other village tanners at 8 centres and about 122 persons were trained. Hides and skins worth about Rs. 6,628 were tanned. Students of the Navsari class were also taught how to prepare champals and were trained in dyeing leather.

Leather working class was continued at Vadnagar throughout the year under report. About 8 students were trained and articles worth Rs. 698 were prepared.

The eri silk demonstration classes at Deoli, Gadat and Gandevi were continued. 156 persons took advantage of these classes as against 86 in the previous year. Demonstrations were also given at Ajarai and Kadodara. 22 broods of eri worms were reared which produced 476 totals of cocoons which were all spun into yarn. In addition 224 tolas of cocoons were bought from rearers and spun into silk yarn. Eri eggs were distributed among the surrounding villages and were sent to Baroda, Bansada, Dharampur and Junagadh. Propaganda in this connection was carried on and as a result private individuals reared, during the year, 90,952 cocoons (2,878 tolas). 700 tolas were spun and 25 yards of silk cloth woven in 200 villages of the State.

Government aid to cottage industries

348. GRANTS-IN-AID — The Khadi Karyalaya at Chalala was given a grant of Rs. 500. A grant of Rs. 159 was also given to the Khadi centre at Visnagar working under the supervision of the All India Spinners' Association.

Spinning and weaving implements such as carding machines, spinning wheels, hand-loom, etc., worth Rs. 4,000 were given to weavers and poor farmers of the State at half the cost.

349. LOANS — Loans amounting to Rs. 27,985 were granted to Chamars and weavers for buying raw materials and implements. These loans are given free of interest and are recovered by small monthly instalments. Instalments amounting to Rs. 19,669 were recovered during the year and instalments amounting to Rs. 36,589 were outstanding at the end of the year.

350. WAR SUPPLY — Inquiries in respect of sandals, bunting cloth, leather laces and other sundry articles were received from the Controller of Supplies, Bombay, and were attended to. Some orders were also received and are being executed.

Industries Board

351. INDUSTRIES BOARD — To provide technical information regarding the possibility of starting industries in the State, and to assist industrialists with advice on technical matters, the Government have created an Industries Board. It consists of four sections: mechanical, agricultural, chemical and general.

During the year, experiments sanctioned by the Board for commercialization of fruit products and manufacture of litho colour nks, sodium sulphide and tailor's tape were carried out.

Factories and Labour

352. **FACTORY OPERATIVES** — The number of factories, under the Factories Act, was 163 as against 156 in the previous year. The following table shows the number of operatives employed in these factories:—

Year	Number of operatives	Engaged in industries		Men	Women	Children (including youths of admissible age)
		Cotton	Others			
1941-42 ...	41,079	33,757	7,322	34,892	5,990	197
1942-43 ...	43,088	34,515	8,573	37,371	5,671	46

353. **FACTORY INSPECTION** — Out of 69 perennial factories working, 15 were inspected once, 40 twice and 11 more than thrice. Three could not be inspected as they were started almost at the end of the year. Out of 105 seasonal factories, 94 worked this season. Out of these 68 were inspected, while 26 could not be inspected because they worked only for a short time. 3 factories were prosecuted and the cases were pending at the end of the year. 98 warnings were given to various factory managers for breaches of factory regulations.

354. **ACCIDENTS** — The total number of accidents during the year was 321 as against 401 in the previous year. Of these, 271 were minor accidents, 46 serious and 10 fatal.

355. **NIGHT SHIFT** — Out of 69 perennial factories working, 35 worked on night shift almost throughout the year as against 25 during the previous year. Many of the seasonal factories also worked on night shift on some days.

356. **SANITATION** — The general sanitation of factories was satisfactory.

357. **TRADE UNIONS** — The number of registered trade unions in the State was 4. No new trade union was registered this year. The Baroda Union had 2,752 members, the Petlad Union 2,567, the Kalol Union 2,041 and the Kadi Union 1,105. The membership of these unions formed 19.6 per cent of the total labour employed as against 17 per cent in the preceding year.

358. **LABOUR DISPUTES** — The workers of Shri Sayaji Mills, Ltd., Baroda, struck work in the month of May 1943, owing to some quarrel between the workers and the gatemen. Quick steps were

successfully taken by the department to settle the dispute. The Majur Mahajan Mandal, Baroda and the management of Shree Sayaji Mills, Ltd., have decided to appoint a permanent board of arbitrators to settle all such disputes between the workers and the management.

There were a few minor disputes in some of the factories of the State and the Gaekwar Mills, Ltd., Billimora, for increase in rates, dearness allowance, etc., but they were quickly settled.

Due to the political movement in August 1942, cotton mills at Kadi, Kalol and Petlad did not work for three months but soon after that normal conditions were restored.

359. DEARNESS ALLOWANCE — Due to the abnormal rise in prices, the question of dearness allowance assumed greater importance and demanded permanent solution. A meeting of the representatives of all the mills in Baroda and the Majur Mahajan Mandal was arranged by the Director of Labour and an agreement was reached to the effect that 75% of the dearness allowance paid in Ahmedabad should be paid to the workers in Baroda as dearness allowance. All other mills in the State also agreed to this principle, and except in Sidhpur, where a fixed dearness allowance of Rs. 13 p. m. is paid, workers in cotton mills all over the State were receiving dearness allowance on this basis since December 1942.

The Assistant Director of Labour visited 14 factories.

360. ADULT EDUCATION — Some of the factories were conducting classes for adult education. Illiterate workers took advantage of these classes.

361. CANTEENS — Six canteens were working on non-profiteering basis during the year as against 4 in the previous year. Tea, coffee, food stuffs, aerated waters, etc., were sold to the labourers at cost price. Nearly all the labourers of the mills and factories took advantage of the canteens.

362. GAMES AND LIBRARIES — 4 mills in the State have made arrangements for indoor and out-door games including cricket. 2 mills maintain small libraries for the use of their employees.

363. CRECHES FOR CHILDREN — Nearly all the mills have made arrangements for creches for children. Some mills have also engaged nurses to look after the children of the employees.

364. CHEAP GRAIN SHOPS — All the mills and big factories in the State have opened cheap grain shops for their employees. Cloth was supplied by all the cotton mills to their employees at cheap rates.

365. MEDICAL RELIEF — 14 large factories in the State engaged full-time or part-time doctors and compounders, and free medical aid

was provided to labourers. In most of the other factories First Aid boxes were provided.

366. CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES — In order that the increased emoluments received by the labourers in the form of dearness allowance, bonus, etc., due to war conditions, may not be frittered away, special efforts were made to start co-operative credit and thrift societies of the labourers. The Assistant Director of Labour was appointed as special registrar for these societies. 18 societies were registered with a membership of 3,700 and efforts are being made to increase their number.

367. PAYMENT OF WAGES RULES — 40 complaints were received during the year as against 22 in the previous year.

368. WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT — The administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act continued to be in the hands of the Subas of the districts who are ex-officio commissioners under the Act. Compensation amounting to Rs. 17,760 was paid to workers for accidents in factories, as against Rs. 8,933 in the previous year.

369. MATERNITY BENEFIT — The total amount of maternity benefit paid to female operatives in factories was Rs. 4,175 as against Rs. 3,509 in the previous year.

370. BOILERS ACT — The number of boilers on the register was 633 as against 620 in the previous year. Of these, 325 had been removed or scrapped. Six owners of factories were fined during the year for breaches of the Act.

CHAPTER XIX

STATISTICS AND INSURANCE

I. Commercial Intelligence & Statistics

371. RETURNS AND STATEMENTS — The following returns and statements were compiled by the department :—

S. No.	Particulars	Period
1	Consumption of cotton bales ...	Monthly
2	Returns of Joint Stock Companies ...	"
3	Returns of foreign sea borne-trade ...	"
4	Returns of cotton mills ...	Annual
5	Returns of Woollen mills ...	"
6	Returns of Joint Stock Companies ...	"
7	Returns of foreign Joint Stock Companies ...	"
8	Returns of minerals ...	"
9	Returns of large industrial establishments ...	"
10	Returns of stock of cotton held by the trade centres in the State on 31st August 1942.	"
11	Statistical Abstract ...	1941-42

II. Joint Stock Companies and Benevolent Societies

372. REGISTERED COMPANIES — During the year, 116 new companies were registered. There were in all 284 companies on the register — 160 public and 124 private companies — at the end of the year. Of these, 21 companies were in liquidation. Of the 284 companies working in the State, 204 were companies incorporated in the State and the remaining 80 were foreign companies. Of the indigenous companies, 21 were cotton mills including 3 in liquidation, 10 were companies for supplying electricity, 15 were for chemicals and other allied trades, 5 were for insurance business and 36 were agencies. Of the 80 foreign companies, 62 were insurance companies,

373. NEW COMPANIES — The 116 new companies registered during the year may be classified as follows :—

			State	Foreign	Total
I.	Banking, Loan and Insurance				
	Banking ...	...	2	2	4
	Investment & Trust ...	...	5	0	5
	Insurance: Life, Fire & Marine.		1	7	8
II.	Transit and Transport	...	1	0	1
III.	Trading and Manufacturing				
	Printing, Publishing & Stationery.		2	0	2
	Chemicals & allied trades ...	...	5	1	6
	Iron, Steel & Ship building ...	...	1	0	1
	Engineering ...	...	8	0	8
	Canvass & India Rubber trades.		1	0	1
	Glass ...	...	1	0	1
	Agencies ...	...	19	0	19
	Others ...	...	48	0	48
IV.	Mills and Presses				
	Cotton mills ...	...	2	0	2
	Paper mills ...	...	1	0	1
	Timber & saw mills ...	...	1	0	1
	Oil mills ...	...	1	0	1
	Other mills and presses ...	...	2	0	2
V.	Mining and Quarrying	...	1	0	1
VI.	Breweries and Distilleries	...	1	0	1
VII.	Hotels, Theatres and Entertainments.		1	0	1
VIII.	Others ...	...	2	0	2
			<hr/> 106 + 10 = 116		

374. CONTROL OF CAPITAL ISSUES — Rule 94 A of the Defence of India Rules was applied in the State. Under the provisions of this rule, Government permission is necessary before issuing capital in the State.

375. CAPITAL OF THE COMPANIES¹ — The paid-up capital of companies incorporated in the State increased by Rs. 61.95 lakhs and that of companies, other than insurance companies, incorporated outside the State by Rs. 559.66 lakhs. This increase was due to the

registration of new companies. The following table shows the authorised, subscribed and paid-up capital of the companies incorporated in and outside the State, excluding insurance companies incorporated elsewhere and working in the State :—

Year	Number of companies on the register (excluding insurance companies incorporated elsewhere and working in the State)	Capital in lakhs of rupees				
		Authorised	Subscribed	Paid-up		
				Companies incorporated		
				In the State	Outside the State	Total
1941-42	116	3907.9	1260.7	290.3	885.8	1176.1
1942-43	222	4755.3	1898.3	352.3	1445.5	1787.8
Net variation during the year.	+ 106	+ 847.4	+ 637.6	+ 61.9	+ 559.7	+ 611.6

376. **BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES** — There were 188 societies on the register under the Benevolent Societies Act and 12 new societies were registered during the year making a total of 130. Of these, 4 were struck off the register as they stopped working, leaving 126 societies on the register at the end of the year. More than two-thirds of these were societies for promoting education, libraries etc. 15 were merchants associations, 12 for sanitary and medical relief and the remaining for other miscellaneous purposes. Out of the 126 societies, 78 were in the Baroda district, 24 in the Mehsana, 17 in the Navsari and 7 in the Amreli districts.

377. **PARTNERSHIP FIRMS** — The number of partnership firms registered under the Partnership Act was 788 to which 83 new firms were added during the year, making a total of 871.

378. **CERTIFIED AUDITORS** — There were 44 certified auditors on the register at the beginning of the year and 7 new auditors were enrolled during the year. Thus there were 51 certified auditors on the register at the end of the year.

III. Insurance

379. **INSURANCE COMPANIES** — There were 52 insurance companies registered under the State Insurance Act at the end of the previous year and 12 more were registered during the year making a total of

64 insurance companies on the register at the end of the year. Of the 12 new companies, one company with an authorised capital of 2½ crores was incorporated in the State. Out of 64 insurance companies, 59 were foreign companies and the remaining 5 were companies incorporated in the State. Besides these, there were 3 foreign provident insurance societies working in the State..

380. LICENCES — Under the Insurance Act, 810 licences for canvassing insurance business in the State were issued during the year as against 863 in the previous year.

Two actuary's certificates were issued during the year as against three in the previous year.

381. WAR RISKS INSURANCE — There were 172 factories in the State coming under the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Scheme. Of these, four were dismantled and 168 factories took out policies under the Ordinance.

IV. Insurance of State Servants

382. COMPULSORY INSURANCE FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS — The scheme for compulsory insurance of Government servants continued to work well. During the year, 623 new proposals were received, 523 accepted, 48 rejected and 14 postponed. The total annual premium received was Rs. 1.05 lakhs. 17 claims amounting to Rs. 8,198 were paid during the year. Surrender value was paid in 18 cases. The total investment of the insurance fund amounted to Rs. 1.62 lakhs at the end of the year.

CHAPTER XX

ELECTRICITY

383. THE CITY ELECTRIC SUPPLY — The city electric supply undertaking generated 40,43,003 K. W. (units) as against 41,15,386 K. W. (units) in the previous year. The decrease in total output over that of last year was 1·8 per cent. The demand amounted to 31·92 lakhs K. W. as against 32·81 lakhs K. W. in the previous year. Of these, 52·5 were used for domestic purposes, 38·7 per cent for industrial and 8·8 per cent for motor pumps, gardens, farms, sewage pumps etc.

The total load on the undertaking was 5,004·6 K. W. at the end of the year as against 4,974·3 K. W. in the previous year. The number of consumers was 41,918 as against 47,179 in the preceding year. This was due partly to restrictions placed by Government in giving new connections on account of lack of surplus power at the power houses and partly to difficulties in obtaining the requisite materials for working the power houses.

The total number of street lights was 2,145 as against 2,137 in the previous year.

The working expenses of the city supply undertaking amounted to Rs. 3·08 lakhs as against 2·45 lakhs in the preceding year. The cost per unit generated was 1·20 annas and per unit sold was 1·5 annas.

The total revenue amounted to Rs. 6·57 lakhs as against Rs. 6·55 lakhs in the previous year. The surplus over working expenses amounted to Rs. 3·48 lakhs. The surplus, after allowing Rs. 93,650 for depreciation represents a net profit of 9 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 28·36 lakhs. After deducting 1·13 lakhs for the Government first charge, the surplus transferred to the reserve fund amounted to Rs. 2·72 lakhs.

During the year, the rules for granting certificates of competency and permits to supervisors and wiremen after holding examination and issuing licenses to electrical contractors in the Raj came into force. A licensing Board has been established for carrying out of these rules. The first examination under these rules was held in June 1943 and the scheme came into force from 1-8-43. These rules have been promulgated to standardize the electrical work throughout the Raj so as to ensure maximum public safety and uniform quality of work.

384. PETLAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY — The Petlad electric supply undertaking worked satisfactorily. The number of units generated was 2,15,056 as against 2,32,025 in the previous year. Of these, 29 per cent were for domestic purposes, 56 per cent for industrial and 15 per cent for street lighting. The total load connected was 110 K. W. during the year. The number of consumers increased during the year from 496 to 522. The number of street lights was 400 at the end of the year.

The revenue amounted to Rs. 0.37 lakh and the working expenses to Rs. 0.18 lakh, leaving a gross surplus of Rs. 0.19 lakh over working expenses. After deducting the depreciation charge of Rs. 6,309, the net surplus represents a profit of 6.58 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 1.95 lakhs.

385. GANDEVI ELECTRIC SUPPLY — The Gandevi electric supply undertaking worked satisfactorily. The number of units generated was 85,386 and the number of units sold 71,760. The total load connected was 72.75 K. W. The gross revenue was Rs. 15,068 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 15,054 which includes interest on stores balance.

Telephone

386. TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN THE STATE — There are automatic telephone systems at Baroda, Navsari, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol and Mehsana. All these have been or are being connected with the trunk telephone systems. During the year, Mehsana Exchange and junction line were opened for local service. The Mehsana-Kalol line was tested by Post and Telegraph department and permission to open the same for general service is awaited. The Petlad-Baroda junction line was also opened for local service. Public call offices were opened at Padra, Dabka and Bhadrān. The work for opening a public call office at Gandevi and connecting the same with Billimora Exchange will be taken on hand as soon as the stores are collected.

The constructional work in connection with the transposition of Mahi river crossing is completed.

387. FINANCIAL RESULTS — The telephone systems showed good financial results.

388. A. R. P. WARNING SYSTEM — A. R. P. Warning system showed a satisfactory working and considerable number of tests were given to subscribers on the warning system followed by a special broadcast of instructions.

389. RADIO LICENSES — The number of radio licences showed an increase over last year from 1,840 to 1,938. Of these 971 were for Baroda City and 967 for district towns. The total amount realised amounted to Rs. 18,150 as against Rs. 16,100 in the previous year.

CHAPTER XXI

FISHERIES

390. MARINE FISHERIES — Surveys and collection of biological specimens and statistical data were continued. The fishing season off Kodinar started badly owing to continuous unfavourable weather but later the pomfret fishery was good, the daily landings being in the region of lac of fish for nearly a month. Ice supply was insufficient and a great portion had to be salted.

391. PEARL AND CONCH FISHERIES — The windowpane oyster pearl fishery was leased for Rs. 1,350 this year as against Rs. 850 in 1941-42 and the conch fishery for Rs. 1,100 as against Rs. 650 in the previous year. The total number of conches collected by the lessee was about 2,000 but they could not be sent to Dacca owing to the difficulty of rail transport. Attempts are being made to open a bangle factory at Okha.

392. INDUSTRIAL EXPERIMENTS — The manure conservancy experiments at Vonchi-Borsi were of 3 types:- 1 fish offal, 2 prawn and other crustacean offal and 3 marsh plants—the seablite and marsh samphire. From the conserved prawn offal 'prawn meal dust' was prepared which after analysis was certified by the Agricultural Chemist as a good general fertiliser. Madhwad station did the work of extraction of neat oil from shark livers. Dead oyster shells were collected at Madhwad and shell grit for use as poultry food, especially in cases where fowls lay leather eggs for want of calcium in their diet, was prepared for sale.

A revised scheme of experiments in curing, pickling and smoking of fish was accepted by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and will be worked for two years from 1943 to 1945 at Kotdah.

393. SHARK LIVER OIL INDUSTRY — The scheme was continued during the year, the work of extraction of oil being done at Madhwad and the preparation of medicated oil and its sale at Okha. Sipha, the residue left after filtration, is valued as a high class desiccating paint for boats. The output of neat oil this year was 1,256 lbs. as against 1,110 in the previous year. 150 bottles and 4,190 lbs. of medicated oil, 9 bottles and 19 lbs. of refined oil and 762 lbs. of sipha were sold during the year for about Rs. 6,000.

394. FRESHWATER FISHERIES — Field studies were made in Baroda city tanks, the Vishvamitri and the Mahisagar. The imported fish gourami and pearlspot in Timbi were thriving. Laboratory experiments in feeding habits of fish, turtles and prawns were undertaken as also identification of collections. The Dadhar river was surveyed and a site was selected for a prawn farm.

395. SOCIO-ECONOMIC WORK AMONG FISHERMEN — Arrangements for working the Kodinar fishermen's colonisation scheme were made; lands for the buildings at Kotdah were acquired.

CHAPTER XXII

FORESTS

396. **FORESTS** — The forests of the State, which cover about 712 square miles, may be divided into two groups: (i) the mixed deciduous teak forests of the Navsari district situated in a belt of heavy rainfall; these cover 561 square miles or 80 per cent of the forest area; (ii) the fuel and grazing forests of the drier districts of Baroda, Mehsana, Amreli and Okhamandal. For purposes of administration the forest area has been divided into nine ranges. Of these, five are in the Navsari district and one in each of the remaining four districts including Okhamandal.

A. SILVICULTURE

397. **SYSTEMS** — In the forests of the Navsari district, the system of selection-cum-improvement with fixed girth limits for the main species has been introduced. Girth limit for teak in the main felling had been provisionally fixed at 30", but it has been increased to 34" as definite statistics could not be collected and working plans could not be undertaken.

The fuel forests were worked under the simple coppice system, the trees being so cut as to stimulate regeneration in the form of coppice shoots.

398. **REGENERATION** — The rainfall in the forests of the Navsari district was 75 inches, and some species could not seed well. Plant survival from natural seed was good in some places and growth of coppice shoots in the felled coupes was satisfactory.

399. **ARTIFICIAL REGENERATION** — Selected blanks in the freshly worked coupes were clear felled and the debris systematically stacked and burnt. 352 rab patches were treated with teak and other seeds. The total area sown was 119 bighas as against 122 in the previous year.

Besides this, stump plants of teak and other timber species were planted in the intervening space between rabs, and in other parts where sowings had failed.

Nursery plants of silver oak, hirda, bawal, etc. were transplanted into the forests. Cuttings of bawal plants were supplied for soil conservation blocks at Dhari.

In the forests of Okhamandal, Gir, Atarsumba ranges and Khari lands of Navsari and Palsana talukas afforestation work was continued. Hardy local species are being tried in these parts.

13,670 lbs. of seeds of principal species were collected for local use and soil conservation work.

400. ANTI-EROSION WORKS — At Hirpura, where some of the forest area is included in the soil conservation blocks, 2,000 earthen check dams and small continuous earthen ridges 33,780 feet long were constructed. Bunds 12 feet wide, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high and 13,400 feet long were constructed. 417 contour trenches were completed. Euphorbia cuttings and seeds of aval, anyar, babul, mahuda, limbda etc. were planted along the bunds and on the slopes of the ravines. The gauchar area was treated with seeds of quality grass. The total expenditure incurred during the year for soil conservation work at Hirpura amounted to Rs. 5,346.

Cultural operations were continued in 64 coupes exploited two years back. Congested coppice shoots were removed, leaving only the most vigorous ones. Inferior species, interfering with the principal ones, were cut or girdled. Silvicultural thinnings were done in 57 coupes exploited 25 years back.

Except in Okha and Gir ranges, the plantations were successful.

401. RESEARCH — Sample plots at different places in the forests have been laid to determine the girth and height increments of the principal species.

Trials for the cultivation of pyrethrum and derris ferruginea, two insecticide yielding plants, were continued. The suckers of the latter were found to have 1 to 2% of rotenone which is an insecticide.

Sandal wood seeds were supplied for plantation in the forests. Plants were raised in baskets and transplanted in the rab areas. 300 plants are progressing well.

Seeds of *aleurites fordii* and *aleurites montana* were supplied for plantation in the forests. Germination was poor. Only thirty seedlings could be raised which were transplanted.

B. UTILISATION

402. MAJOR FOREST PRODUCE — The timber market showed a marked improvement and the income from the sale of timber increased from Rs. 4.65 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 7.88 lakhs though the area

exploited during the year was less by 792 bighas. The following table gives the figures in detail :—

Year	Number of coupes	Total area exploited	Total realisation (in lakhs of rupees)	Average realisation per bigha Rs.	Timber extracted (in cubic feet)	Fuel extracted (in cubic feet)
1941-42 ...	115	20,616	4.65	22.06	7,61,699	15,81,180
1942-43 ...	113	19,824	7.88	39-12-2	7,86,257	10,77,320

The increase in revenue is due to the general rise in prices.

Besides this, Rs. 0.41 lakh were realised from the sale of kalam, haldwan, kakad, modad, kelai, siras and bondaro as against Rs. 0.15 lakh in the previous year.

403. MINOR FOREST PRODUCE — The minor forest produce is exploited on a system of farming and licence. The total value of minor forest produce sold was Rs. 0.94 lakh as against Rs. 0.98 lakh in the previous year. The grazing fees amounted to Rs. 30,375, bamboos fetched Rs. 26,743, stone from Songir quarries Rs. 4,524, asintra and timru leaves Rs. 3,986, mahura flowers Rs. 1,151 and miscellaneous revenue Rs. 27,356.

404. FOREST INDUSTRIES — Leases for the development of katha (catechu), lac and timru leaves industries in these forests have been granted. During the year, 5,963 maunds of katha were prepared and Rs. 5,963 were paid as royalty to the Government.

405. MISCELLANEOUS — The scheme of storing grass of one season till the next season, was continued. During the year, 6 lakhs lbs. of grass have been stored in the Gir range.

People of the Navsari forest areas were allowed to take free of cost materials for building huts worth Rs. 42,080. People living in and around these forest areas earned about Rs. 6 lakhs as wages, mostly in the slack agricultural season in forest works. In addition, they enjoyed concessions in respect of grazing and collecting of forest produce.

60 wagon loads of firewood and 10 wagon loads of charcoal were supplied at concession rates to the people of Baroda city from the Navsari forests.

C. FOREST ADMINISTRATION

406. FOREST ROADS ETC. — During the year, 2.3 miles of fair weather roads were completed and 49.5 miles were under construction. The amount spent from the forest cess during the year on these roads was

Rs. 50,670 as against Rs. 37,792 in the previous year. The expenditure on maintenance of roads was Rs. 2,781 and of wells and buildings Rs. 2,364.

407. FOREST OFFENCES — The number of forest offences during the year was 116 as against 177 in the previous year. Most of them were compounded.

408. PROTECTION FROM FIRE — The area burnt by fire during the year was 8,970 bighas as against 38,384 bighas in the previous year. The expenditure on fire protection was Rs. 4,293 as against Rs. 4,762 in the previous year.

409. PROTECTION FROM CATTLE — During the year, 11·6 per cent of the forest areas were closed and 88·4 per cent were open to grazing. The closure is limited to areas under regeneration and those with young plantation. Felled coupes are thrown open to grazing in the sixth year of the felling.

During the year, 85,251 animals grazed in the forests as against 83,199 in the previous year. The total revenue realised was Rs. 25,132 as against Rs. 24,673 in the previous year. The incidence of grazing in the reserved forests was 8 bighas per animal.

Rs. 7,545 were realised from sale of grass as against Rs. 8,310 in the previous year.

410. DESTRUCTION OF VEGETATION — During the year climbers were destroyed in 99,201 bighas as against 65,091 bighas in the previous year. Besides this, the coupe contractors destroyed climbers in their coupes.

411. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE — The total revenue for the year was Rs. 9·52 lakhs (including Rs. 81,901 of forest local cess) as against Rs. 6·59 lakhs in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 2·93 lakhs is due mainly to higher prices obtained in coupe auctions. The expenditure of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 1·23 lakhs as against Rs. 1·34 lakhs in the previous year.

CHAPTER XXIII

PUBLIC WORKS

412. GENERAL — The activities of the Public Works department suffered owing to the war. The shortage of supplies, the difficulties of transport and rising prices have told on the progress of the work during the year.

413. IRRIGATION — The following irrigation schemes were under execution or investigation:—

- (i) THE VIJAPUR TUBE WELL IRRIGATION SCHEME IN THE MEHSANA DISTRICT — To test the sub-soil supply of water, forty tube wells were sanctioned in 1939-40. During the year under report seven were taken on hand of which four were successful. The total number of successful wells so far is twenty six. In some of the successful wells pumping plants were installed and irrigation carried out. The total area irrigated was 486 bighas. The expenditure on maintenance was high due to high cost of materials etc. As electric machinery could not be obtained the scheme had to be worked by oil engines and pumps. The total cost of the scheme is Rs. 9.63 lakhs and the total expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 8.85 lakhs.
- (ii) THE SABARMATI IRRIGATION PROJECT IN THE MEHSANA DISTRICT — The scheme is under correspondence with the Government of Bombay.
- (iii) THE ZANKHARI IRRIGATION PROJECT IN THE NAVSARI DISTRICT—The project has been scrutinised by Irrigation experts and the report of the geological survey is awaited.
- (iv) THE UMRA LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEME — This is a scheme for improving irrigation facilities in Gandevi taluka. It was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.60 lakhs. The work is in progress and the expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 2.66 lakhs.
- (v) THE BARODA FLOOD CONTROL SCHEME — Arrangements are made to carry out detailed investigation.

- (vi) **THE OKHAMANDAL CONTOUR SURVEY** — A detailed survey of the central portion of Okhamandal was undertaken in January 1943 and completed in May. As a result of this, proposals for either constructing a storage tank or diverting additional catchment to Bhimgaja tank are being formulated.

The existing irrigation works, irrigated 10,814 bighas as against 11,129 bighas in the preceding year and the total revenue realised was Rs. 37,867 as against Rs. 38,695 in the previous year. The net return was Rs. 3.49 per bigha as against Rs. 3.46 in the previous year.

414. **FIELD DRAINS AND KOTARS** — For these works a provision of Rs. 53,370 was made.

In the Baroda district, 10 miles of new channels were cut, 21 miles of drains overhauled and 15 miles of drains thoroughly repaired. The bunding of kotars at Namisra, Ekalbara and Pipalva was completed.

415. **WATER SUPPLY WORKS** — The Baroda City water works and the distribution system within the municipal limits are under the control of the Baroda municipality, but the head works at Ajwa, Asoj and Pratappura, the filterbeds at Nimetha and the mains outside the municipal limits are the charge of the department. These were maintained in working order at a cost of Rs. 40,320 during the year.

Protection works for Ajwa waste weir system were completed at a cost of Rs. 30,984. The work of filling up the breach in dam of Pratappura tank was completed at a cost of Rs. 29,348. Besides these, a number of schemes for supplying water to towns were either in progress or under investigation. In all these schemes the Government gives grants.

- (i) **DHARMAJ** — The work of fixing stand posts and hydrants, laying pipes etc., was done this year.
- (ii) **NĀVSARI** — The work of improvements is nearly completed. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 0.94 lakh.
- (iii) **BILLIMORA** — Two wells were excavated and further work is in progress.
- (iv) **SONGADH** — The work of augmenting the water supply is completed. The total expenditure on the scheme is Rs. 17,662.
- (v) **MEHSANA** — Further work on the new bore is kept in abeyance. The municipality was carrying out the work of removing silt from the well but could not do any work for want of sufficient electric power.

- (vi) AMRELI — The work on wells is finished. These are to be gauged for ascertaining the sufficiency of supply. This will be done in the next fair season.

416. DRAINAGE WORKS — Another instalment of the Baroda City drainage works, including storm water drains, were executed at a cost of Rs. 75,085.

Drainage works at the following towns were either in progress or completed during the year :—

- (i) BHADRAN — The work has been completed. House connections are in progress.
- (ii) SANKHEDA — The construction of open drains sanctioned for Rs. 38,000 is in progress.
- (iii) SOJITRA — Work has been sanctioned for Rs. 2.11 lakhs and is in progress.
- (iv) DHARMAJ — The estimate is for Rs. 1.85 lakhs. Work is in progress.
- (v) NAVSARI — The scheme has been completed except for only one drainage line, the total expenditure being Rs. 5.62 lakhs.
- (vi) VISNAGAR — All works including 1,500 house connections have been completed.

417. CITY IMPROVEMENT WORKS — Besides laying drainage line in Navapura, Baroda Camp, to join with the housing society the following improvement schemes were in progress during the year under report:—

- (i) Goya Gate housing society.
- (ii) Arunodaya and Kunj societies.
- (iii) Madhuvan housing society.

*In addition the following schemes were either matured or in preparation :—

- (i) Khanderao Temple scheme.
- (ii) Kaka Saheb's paga.
- (iii) Navapura Improvement scheme.
- (iv) Bacha Jamadar's paga scheme.
- (v) Wadi Wadi Improvement scheme.
- (vi) Karelilbag Improvement scheme.

418. TOWN EXTENSIONS AND RECREATION GROUNDS — The schemes for extensions in the following towns were prepared:—

Umrath.	Mehsana.
Kadi.	Amreli.
Kalol.	Kodinar.

Schemes for providing recreation grounds for towns having a population of 7,000 or more were under preparation. The work of recreation grounds at Vadnagar and Sankheda is completed.

419. ROADS — The following roads were under construction during the year:—

- (i) BOMBAY AHMEDABAD ROAD — The work of constructing a portion of Bombay Ahmedabad road from Bhadran to State limits.
- (ii) PADRA DABHASA ROAD — The metalling of this road 4.5 miles in length, in the Baroda district.
- (iii) KATHORE KIM VELLACHA MANGROL ROAD — 17 miles in length in the Navsari district.
- (iv) MAHUVA ANAVAL ROAD — 18 miles in length in the Navsari district. The work is almost completed.
- (v) KAMREJ VIA ORNA TO NAGOD RUNDHWADA ROAD — 14.75 miles in length, in the Navsari district.

The high level bridge over the Unchha river near Panej was in progress. The protective works for the piers of the Pratap Setu at Kathor were under construction. The construction of a low level bridge on the Shetrunji river near Gavadka was completed. The low level causeway in the Thebi river near Amreli was completed at a total cost of Rs. 51,733.

420. FOREST ROADS — In the forests of the Navsari district the following fair weather roads were completed during the year:—

- (i) UMARPADA TO KHANT — 5 miles.
- (ii) VAJPUR TO NANCHAL BORDER TO VADPADA — 5 miles.

Works on sixteen roads were in progress and the survey work of nine roads was completed.

The total expenditure on these roads during the year was Rs. 45,224 as against Rs. 42,361 in the previous year.

421. BUILDINGS — The following public buildings were completed or work on them was in progress during the year:—

- (i) HOSPITALS — The T. B. Hospital at Baroda, modifications to Sayaji Hospital at Petlad, Veterinary dispensary at Vadu, Maternity wards at Vyara, Kalol and Kodinar, Eye ward at Patan, and Maternity and dispensary buildings at Dwarka.
- (ii) SCHOOL BUILDINGS — Boys' High school at Patan, mixed school at Chalala and extension to High school at Vaso.
- (iii) OTHER BUILDINGS — Broadcasting studio, sleeping ward in Central Jail, munsiff court at Dabhoi.

422. IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS — The opening ceremony of Shri Padmavati Devi Sanatorium was performed on 17th March 1943 by Her Highness the Maharani Saheb.

423. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 40.32 lakhs as against Rs. 45.85 lakhs in the previous year.

CHAPTER XXIV

STATE RAILWAYS

424. STATE RAILWAYS — The total mileage of the railways owned by the State, including Bodeli-Chhota-Udaipur railway and Broach Jambusar Railway was 795 miles. Of these 21.42 miles were broad gauge, 345.64 miles metre gauge and 428.11 miles narrow gauge. The Anand-Tarapur line 21.42 miles was worked by the Government of India, the Okha Railway 37.21 miles by the Jamnagar and Dwarka railway and the remaining 736.54 miles by the State.

The mileage worked by the State was as follows:—

	Main lines miles.	Sidings miles.
(a) Narrow-gauge	428.11	65.52
(b) Metre-gauge	308.43	40.39
Gaekwar's Mehsana	255.12	
Khijadia-Dhari	37.46	
Prachi Road-Kodinar	15.85	
Total ...	736.54	105.91

425. NEW PROJECTS — The Broach-Jambusar railway with extensions to Kavi and Dahej, 72.38 miles in length was purchased from the Government of India from 1st October 1942. This narrow gauge line is linked with the Dabhoi-Jambusar line and forms a new junction with the B. B. & C. I. Rly. at Broach instead of at Jambusar.

426. IMPORTANT WORKS — The following works were either completed or in progress at the end of the year:—

- (i) Relaying new rails on 37.3 miles of the Mehsana-Viramgam section.
- (ii) Reconstructing bridge on Kosamba-Zankhavav line.
- (iii) Dismantling and rebuilding Savli and Samalaya side abutments and wing walls of bridges on Dabhoi section.
- (iv) Rebuilding Men river bridge (combined road and railway) with approaches on Motipura-Tankhala railway.
- (v) Provision of additional water ways and dips on Broach-Jambusar railway.

427. GROSS EARNINGS — The gross earnings for the year amounted to Rs. 92.87 lakhs. Of these, Rs. 82.16 lakhs were receipts from the lines worked by the State and Rs. 10.70 lakhs from State-owned lines

managed by foreign railways. The gross earnings of the metre gauge lines as compared to the preceding year increased by 32.48 per cent from Rs. 29.94 lakhs to Rs. 39.67 lakhs, and that of narrow gauge lines by 37.42 per cent from Rs. 30.92 lakhs to Rs. 42.48 lakhs.

The coaching and goods earnings both on metre gauge and narrow gauge sections increased by Rs. 20.63 lakhs.

428. WORKING EXPENSES—Working expenses of the State managed railways excluding depreciation amounted to Rs. 29.72 lakhs as against Rs. 27.77 lakhs in the preceding year, and the working expenses of the Anand Tarapur and Okha Railways were Rs. 4.84 lakhs as against Rs. 4.21 lakhs in the preceding year. The increase is due to higher cost of materials. The percentage of working expenses including contribution to Depreciation Fund to gross traffic receipts was 36.77 as against 51.71 on metre gauge and 50.57 as against 58.94 on narrow gauge. Excluding contribution to Depreciation Fund, the ratio on the metre gauge works out to 30.87 as against 43.90 while on the narrow gauge 41.11 as against 47.29 per cent in the preceding year. The percentage of working expenses to gross earnings including actual expenditure charged to Depreciation Fund works out to 45.76 as against 53.54 on narrow gauge and 36.38 on metre gauge as against 46.06 of the preceding year.

429. NET EARNINGS—The net earnings of the railways amounted to Rs. 51.95 lakhs yielding a return of 8.87% on the capital outlay of Rs. 589.82 lakhs. The following statement shows the details of the financial working of the railways:—

Name of Railway	Year	Capital invested (Rs. in lakhs)	Gross earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Net earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Working percentage	Percentage of return on capital	Length in miles	Cost per mile	Working expenses per mile (Rs.)
Narrow Gauge	1941	311.34	26.70	16.73	9.92	62.83	3.19	355.73	87,521	4,715
	1942	312.28	30.92	18.22	12.70	58.94	4.07	355.73	87,785	5,123
	1943	313.72	38.70	19.61	19.19	50.42	6.12	355.73	88,191	5,485
Metre Gauge	1941	186.84	25.58	15.36	10.22	60.03	5.47	308.23	60,617	4,981
	1942	187.11	29.94	15.48	14.46	51.71	7.73	308.43	60,664	5,020
	1943	188.83	39.67	14.59	25.08	36.77	13.28	308.43	61,223	4,730
Anand-Tarapur	1941	14.6	4.72	2.23	2.49	47.30	17.03	21.42	68,195	10,433
	1942	14.6	5.04	2.18	2.86	43.26	19.60	21.42	68,195	10,190
	1943	14.6	4.58	2.18	2.40	47.66	16.39	21.42	68,195	10,182
Okha	1941	45.81	4.13	1.96	2.17	47.38	4.74	37.21	123,109	5,256
	1942	48.37	5.15	2.03	3.12	39.35	6.46	37.21	130,002	5,450
	1943	48.77	6.13	2.66	3.47	43.39	7.11	37.21	131,069	7,147
Broach Jambusar Railway	1941									
	1942									
	1943	23.90	3.79	1.97	1.82	52.07	9.12	72.38	33,014	2,725

Gross earnings of the working of Broach-Jambusar line for a period of ten months amounted to Rs. 3.79 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 1.73 lakhs. Rs. 24,613 were contributed to Depreciation Fund leaving a net earning of Rs. 1.82 lakhs.

430. DEPRECIATION FUND—The table below gives the position of Depreciation Fund during the year :—

	Narrow Gauge Rs.	Metre Gauge Rs.	Broach Jambusar Rly. Rs.
Balance on 31-8-42 ...	23,77,366	7,91,893	...
Contribution during 1942-43...	3,77,190	2,33,882	24,613
Total ...	27,54,556	10,25,775	24,613
Expenditure during the year...	1,84,114	2,18,594	13,479
Balance on 1-8-43 ...	25,70,442*	8,07,181+	11,134

*This is exclusive of Rs. 911 recoverable from Bodeli-Chhota Udaipur Railway's net earnings on account of R & R.

+Including the amount of loan of Rs. 61,626 spent for works on M. G. railway the balance would be Rs. 8,68,807.

431. RESERVE FUND—In addition to the depreciation fund, there is a railway reserve fund, which is credited with the surplus of net earnings, deducting interest on the capital outlay, at four per cent. This fund is intended for

- (i) meeting the deficiency of gross earnings to defray working expenses, should such a contingency arise any year, and
- (ii) providing funds for further capital expenditure.

The balance in the fund at the end of the year, was Rs. 50.41 lakhs as against Rs. 25.09 lakhs.

432. TRAFFIC FIGURES—The following table compares the traffic receipts in details with those of the previous year :—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Particulars	Narrow-gauge		Metre-gauge		Broach Jambusar railway 1942-43
	1941-42	1942-43	1941-42	1942-43	
Coaching ...	12.91	13.71	17.58	21.97	2.15
Goods ...	16.25	22.85	11.78	16.91	1.58
Miscellaneous...	1.47	2.14	0.58	0.79	0.06
Total ...	30.91	38.70	29.94	38.67	3.79

N. B. Earnings for Broach Jambusar railway are for ten months only.

The table below gives comparative figures of cotton traffic which is the principal item of goods traffic :—

Year	Number of full pressed bales	Number of half pressed bales	Kappas in wagon loads
NARROW-GAUGE			
1940-41 ...	1,09,988	15,838	1,702
1941-42 ...	1,25,598	17,514	112
1942-43 ...	77,325	10,202	529
BROACH-JAMBUSAR-KAVI RY. & SAMNI-DAHEJ SECTION			
1942-43 (10 months) ...	19,393	1,200	80
METRE-GAUGE			
1940-41 ...	40,045	2,857	762
1941-42 ...	53,038	1,824	2,767
1942-43 ...	59,709	1,748	1,571

433. WAGON POOL — The metre gauge wagon pool, introduced by the Railway Board in 1939, continued in operation.

434. RAIL-ROAD COMPETITION — This is gradually disappearing largely due to the rationing of petrol. The motor-bus services organised by the department were functioning. But one out agency was closed due to shortage of petrol and a new one was opened.

435. LOCAL AGENTS AT FLAG STATIONS — Local agents were working at 10 flag stations. The system has proved satisfactory and the earnings at these stations showed a marked increase.

436. TICKETLESS TRAVEL — Instead of the crew system, which is in force on the isolated sections only, the surprise squad checking system introduced last year was continued. The new system is found effective.

437. TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHEME — The Technical Training Scheme for the training of war technicians continued to function during the year under review. The number of trainees on 31-7-43 being 7 only (4 Boiler makers and 3 fitters) against the sanctioned number of 24. The training of war technicians in the G. B. S. Railway Workshop is being discontinued under instructions issued by the Government of India, Department of Labour.

438. MEDICAL SERVICE — Railway dispensaries in charge of full time medical officers continued to function at Goya Gate, Dabhoi and Mehsana. Necessary medical arrangements were also made for the isolated branch lines. The travelling nurse midwives rendered useful services to the out-station staff.

439. SANITARY COMMITTEE — Sanitary committees at important stations both on the metre gauge and narrow gauge railways continued to function well.

440. CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY LTD. — The Society has been rendering useful financial assistance to the railway staff for the past twenty one years. It had 1,214 members during the year as against 1,211 in the preceding year. The members held 13,444 shares as against 13,153 in the previous year. The working capital was Rs. 97,817 as against Rs. 91,134, working expenses Rs. 1,546-8-9 and the net profit Rs. 4,814-1-6.

441. RECREATION FOR STAFF — The railway institutes at Goya Gate, Baroda City and Dabhoi continued to be well patronised by the staff. The institutes are managed by committees elected annually by the members.

442. COLLECTION OF TERMINAL TAX — Terminal tax on goods and parcel traffic collected by the railways on behalf of the Baroda and Petlad Municipalities at Goya Gate, Vishwamitri and Petlad stations amounted to Rs. 79,313; Rs. 78,760 for Baroda Municipality, and Rs. 533 for Petlad Municipality. Remuneration earned by the Railway amounted to Rs. 4,039.

CHAPTER XXV

EDUCATION

443. MAIN LINES OF PROGRESS — (i) In the field of primary education, the department continued its efforts to eradicate stagnation and waste. The opening of higher classes in primary schools was pursued as a policy. The preparation of the State reading series "The Pratap Reading Series" is progressing satisfactorily. The first three books have been published and introduced. The fourth book is ready for the press and books fifth to seventh are nearing completion.

(ii) To increase the supply of trained teachers the temporary increases in admissions sanctioned in the Training School for Men were made permanent.

(iii) For the spread of education in backward Thakarda villages, a scheme of opening ten non-compulsory schools with provision of grants for encouraging teachers to work in these backward villages has been sanctioned and arrangements for starting these schools are in progress.

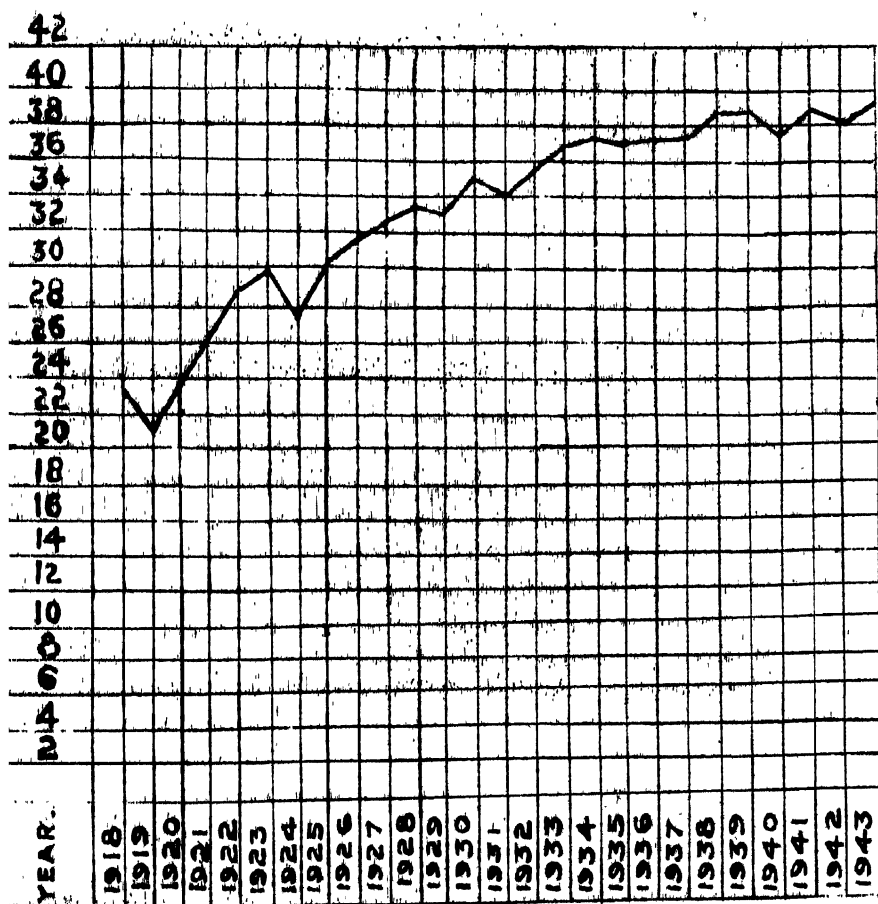
(iv) In spite of adverse conditions the adult literacy campaign was carried on. During the year under report 397 classes attended by 4,712 illiterates were conducted. A scheme has been sanctioned for post-literacy classes for the benefit of the new literates and of persons who left schools before passing class V.

(v) The experiment of infants' classes is being continued. The object is to enlist the co-operation of educated women in the education of their little children. At the end of the year, there were 140 such classes attended by 2,735 children and 1,074 ladies took part in them. The Government have sanctioned an annual grant of Rs. 2,000 for these classes for a period of three years from 1941-42.

(vi) The Government accepted a donation of two lakhs of rupees by Sir Homi Mehta for starting a technical institute in Navsari. The institute will conduct diploma courses in Spinning and Weaving and a certificate course in Automobile Engineering.

(vii) The Government have sanctioned a revised scheme for grants to private secondary schools to assist private enterprise more liberally than hitherto. A sum of rupees one lakh has been ordered to be provided every year in the budget for this purpose.

DIAGRAM SHOWING FLUCTUATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE IN LAKHS OF RUPEES.



(viii) As an experimental measure the two allied departments of Scouting and Physical Education were amalgamated at the centre and in Amreli district for a period of one year.

(ix) B. Com. classes were added to the newly started Pratapsinha College of Commerce and Economics, Baroda.

(x) Schemes for granting financial assistance to evacuee university students, and for scholarships to children of military servants on war duty have been sanctioned.

444. **SCHOLARSHIPS** — The State has a fairly comprehensive scheme of free-studentships and scholarships both for secondary and higher education. Besides merit and other scholarships, special scholarships for students of backward communities are given as encouragement. Over and above these, there are scholarships for Medical studies and studies in Agriculture, Animal husbandry, Commerce etc. To encourage education among girls half-fees concession is given in secondary schools and special scholarships are given to poor girls. Six scholarships are also reserved for Muslim girls studying in secondary schools. In Kala-Bhavan there are 64 Government scholarships of the value of Rs. 8,185 a year, of which 22 are for backward classes and 30 for artisans. In addition to ordinary free-ships, special extra concession in fees is also given to the students of the scheduled classes. In the Baroda College, besides merit and other special scholarships there are 28 scholarships for students of backward communities and 10 per cent of the students are given freeships.

445. **EDUCATION OF THE ROYAL CHILDREN** — The Princes' school has been working under the supervision of Mr. Young; the senior class is conducted by him and the junior classes Nos. I., II., III. are conducted under his general supervision. The curriculum of studies for the Yuvraj consists of English, Sanskrit, Marathi, Gujarati, Mathematics, Indian and English history and Geography. Suitable curricula have been devised for the junior classes.

The Yuvraj takes keen interest in sports and in Scouting.

446. **INSTITUTIONS AND PUPILS** — The total number of educational institutions at the end of the year 1942-43 was 2,587 as against 2,548 at the end of the last year. The total number of pupils attending these was 3,04,021 as against 3,08,777 in the previous year. Of these, 1,84,555 were boys and 1,19,466 were girls. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction to total male and female population was 12.5 and 8.6 as against 12.8 and 8.7 in the previous year.

There are three colleges imparting University education viz. Baroda College (Arts and Science), S. T. T. College and the Commerce College. The number of students studying in these colleges during the year under report was 1,115, 123 and 284 respectively.

The number of institutions imparting secondary education has risen from 150 to 156 with 26,789 pupils attending them, of whom 2,912 were girls. Of the 38 high schools 20 were private, and of the 118 A. V. Schools 88 were private schools. During the year under report there was an increase of 6 A. V. Schools, and the number of high schools is increased by one.

There were 2,384 primary schools in the State of which 2,261 were Government schools; with 2,64,797 pupils; the remaining 123 were aided and recognised primary schools with 8,112 pupils. Thus the total number of pupils under instruction in primary schools was 2,72,909; of these 1,15,671 were girls.

For imparting technical education there are the Kalabhavan at Baroda and 5 technical and industrial schools, including Kotawala Industrial School at Patan and J. N. Tata Hunnershala at Navsari. Of these 6 technical institutions 2 are private industrial schools for women only.

For the training of primary teachers the State is maintaining two training schools for primary teachers with 649 pupils.

There are 12 Sanskrit schools in the State with 434 pupils; of these seven schools are private.

The State maintains 2 schools for defectives one at Baroda and the other at Mehsana, with 84 pupils.

Besides these there are 5 music schools with 483 pupils, 1 Reformatory school for juvenile offenders, and 14 boarding houses for the depressed and other backward communities. The total number of such special institutions was 43 with 2,801 pupils, of whom 743 were girls.

447. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 38,57,342 as against Rs. 38,54,195 in the previous year.

University Education

(a) Baroda College

448. STRENGTH — The number of students in the college at the end of the academic year (March 1943) was 1,115 including 140 women students and 69 post-graduate students as compared with 1,610 at the end of the previous year. The number of students belonging to the Baroda State was 781 which gives a percentage of 70.0 compared with 85.28 last year. 41 students came from other Indian States and 293 from British India.

449. **HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION** — There are three separate hostel blocks belonging to the Government which provide accommodation for 160 students. Of the total number of 1,115 students admitted to the college about 14.3 could thus be given hostel accommodation.

450. **EXAMINATION RESULTS** — The following table shows the university examination results :—

Class	Total sent up	Total pass	Second class	First class	Remarks p. c.
M. A. ...	21	8	2	...	38%
B. Sc. ...	50	44	26	15	88%
B. A. ...	139	106	25	8	76%
Int. Sc. ...	131	72	29	4	55%
Int. Arts ...	153	82	10	1	53%

451. **MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES** — Prof. Wadia continued in command of the Baroda College Training Corps assisted by Prof. Cholkar. 634 students are receiving compulsory physical training.

A number of papers of scientific and literary interest were published by members of the college staff. Research work on various subjects was continued.

The meteorological laboratory attached to the science institute continued to work well.

452. **EXPENDITURE** — The following table shows the expenditure and receipts of the college and the average net cost per each pupil during the year :—

Expenditure	Receipts	Net cost per pupil
Rs. 2,05,228	Rs. 1,74,604	Rs. 50-5-0
as against Rs. 2,22,367 in the previous year.	as against Rs. 1,41,362 in the previous year.	

(b) *Secondary Teachers' Training College, Baroda*

453. **COURSE OF STUDY** — The Secondary Teachers' Training College when it was started in 1935 had provision for the training of 30 graduates and an equal number of matriculate teachers.

Now it has three distinct departments all affiliated to the Bombay University, the B. T. dealing with the training of 75 graduates, the T. D. which trains 60 matriculates in two classes and the M. Ed.

concerned with research students. It has a building of its own and a teaching staff of 14 members.

454. UNIVERSITY RESULTS—B. T. AND T. D. EXAMINATIONS — All the 71 candidates who were presented by the college passed in Part I of the examination and there was only one failure in Part II. One of the students of the college secured the first rank in the university at the B. T. examination and was awarded "distinction" by a special vote of the examiners. A number of places among the first ten were also secured by the college.

All the 16 candidates presented by the college at the Practical Part of the T. D. examination were successful. The results at the theoretical part were not however good: only 45 per cent passed.

The journal of the college published interesting technical papers by the professors and others.

455 EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the college was Rs. 32,254 as against Rs. 31,826 and the receipts Rs. 24,484 as against Rs. 25,480 respectively of the previous year.

(c) *The Pratapsinha College of Commerce and Economics.*

456. GENERAL — The B. Com. classes were opened in the year.

The number of students on the roll was 284.

457. EXPENDITURE — The total receipts and expenditure of the college during the year 1942-43 are as under:—

Receipts	Expenditure
Rs. 36,083	Rs. 41,418

Secondary Education

458. GENERAL — The policy of Government is to encourage private bodies by giving grants-in-aid, to open and maintain English schools and classes.

During the year there were 38 high schools in the State, 18 Government, 13 grant-in-aid and 7 recognised. The number of A. V. schools was 118, 30 Government, 6 grant-in-aid and 82 recognised as against 113 in the previous year. Of these one Government high school and 4 A. V. schools (2 Government and 2 private schools) were specially meant for girls.

The number of pupils in secondary schools was 26,789 as against 29,205 in the previous year. Of these 9,698 including

1,888 girls were in Government schools, 7,848 including 718 girls in aided schools and 9,243 including 306 girls in other recognised institutions.

459. GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTIONS — The total number of schools and institutions receiving grant-in-aid from Government was 19 - 13 high schools and 6 A. V. schools. A special grant-in-aid of Rs. 360 was given to the manual training class attached to the A. J. High School, Vaso. The total grant given to privately managed institutions during the year was Rs. 43,144 as against Rs. 47,261 in the previous year.

460. BOARDING HOUSES — There are 4 hostels, maintained by the Government, attached to the high schools at Patan, Visnagar and Mehsana and the Maharani girls high school at Baroda. The government bear the major portion of the expenditure of these hostels. Besides these, there were 6 private hostels.

461. MATRICULATION RESULTS — The matriculation results were satisfactory. The percentage of successful students in Government high schools was 50.6, in private schools 42.2 and in all high schools 46.4.

462. RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS — Teachers are generally selected from amongst candidates with honours and training qualifications and allotted to schools in accordance with needs. First class graduates and M. As. are given preference. During the year the number of trained teachers in Government schools was 125 graduates and 158 under-graduates. The Government have ordered that all untrained teachers already in service should get themselves trained and that only trained hands should be selected in future.

463. INSPECTION — The Inspector of secondary schools inspected 15 high schools and 16 A. V. schools during the year. Special attention was paid to the teaching of English. 15 demonstration lessons were given by him.

464. PHYSICAL TRAINING — Physical training has been made compulsory and now forms a part of the regular curriculum in all schools. For imparting intensive physical training to untrained teachers, training centres were opened and camps organised.

465. MANUAL TRAINING CLASSES — The value of education through handicrafts is now recognised. Manual training and Sloyd classes are attached to the high schools at Mehsana, Patan, Visnagar, Padra, Petlad, Bhadrans, Kathore, Gangadhara, Amreli and Dwarka. The students show considerable interest in the work.

466. OTHER ACTIVITIES — Extra-curricular activities are encouraged. Many such activities were carried out in schools, like circulation of important educational publications, magazines and journals, demonstration lessons, gardening, organisation of co-operative stores, junior redcross societies and nature study.

467. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The expenditure on secondary education during the year was Rs. 5,05,691 and the receipts Rs. 1,65,393 as against Rs. 5,36,749 and Rs. 1,96,240 in the preceding year.

Primary Education

468. SCHOOLS AND PUPILS — During the year 1942-43 there were 2,384 primary schools having 2,72,909 pupils on roll. Of the 2,384 primary schools 2,261 were Government primary schools and had 2,64,797 pupils on roll. The increase in the number of Government schools is mainly due to the starting of 46 higher primary schools. Out of the total enrolment of 2,72,909 pupils 1,57,238 were boys and 1,15,671 were girls, as against 2,74,602 (1,58,035 boys and 1,16,567 girls) in the previous year. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction to the male and female population was 10.7 and 8.4 respectively the same during the previous year. The average daily attendance during the year under report was 79.6 per cent as against 81.0 during the previous year. The drop in attendance is mainly due to the suspension of compulsion in some districts of the State, and partly on account of the present abnormal dearth.

469. EFFORTS TO REDUCE WASTAGE AND STAGNATION — The department is fully alive to the causes of wastage and stagnation in primary schools and is making steady efforts to check them by the following measures:—

- (1) Improving the attendance.
- (2) Making efforts to see that all children get enrolled in the beginning of the school year.
- (3) Improving the qualifications of the teaching and the inspecting staff.
- (4) Increasing the number of women teachers.
- (5) Improving the staffing of the schools by amalgamating small schools with adjoining bigger ones.
- (6) Stricter and more systematic supervision by the inspecting staff.

The results of these efforts are slow but satisfactory. The proportion of pupils in class V to pupils in class I is gradually improving every year as will be evident from the following figures:—

Year	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V*	Proportion of class I to V
1937-38 ...	68,653	46,322	49,806	38,666	30,157	43·9
1938-39 ...	68,036	56,665	51,871	40,254	32,182	46·5
1939-40 ...	66,674	56,757	52,204	42,188	34,336	51·4
1940-41 ...	72,702	55,996	52,119	42,089	36,275	50·0
1941-42 ...	73,571	59,284	53,357	42,837	37,368	50·7
1942-43 ...	71,823	57,438	53,494	42,466	36,169	50·4

*Pupils studying in English class V are also included in class V.

470. **QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS** — The efficiency of teaching depends to a large extent on the qualities and training of teachers. Steady efforts have been made to train all primary school teachers and improve the training given. Admissions to the training schools have been increased from time to time and during the year the two schools had 649 teachers under training. A minimum period of two years' training has been made compulsory for all teachers. As a result of these efforts there has been an improvement in the proportion of trained teachers and in their quality. During the year out of the total of 6,452 teachers in primary schools 5,292 or 82·0 per cent were trained teachers. Of the remaining 1,160, the majority were teachers with more than 10 years' experience.

471. **SCHOOL BUILDINGS** — 847 schools have Government buildings. 91 schools have rent free buildings, and the remaining are housed in hired buildings.

472. **GIRLS' SCHOOLS** — The total number of girls' schools was 295 of which 285 were Government and 10 private institutions, as against 283 and 8 schools respectively in the preceding year. The number of girls attending these schools was 46,512. Besides these there were 69,159 attending mixed schools. Thus the total number of girls attending schools during the year was 1,15,671 as against 1,16,567 in the previous year, showing a decrease of 896.

473. **KINDERGARTEN CLASSES** — The total number of kindergarten schools was 34 with 2,020 pupils as against 31 schools with 1,948 pupils. Of these, 29 with 1,636 pupils were private institutions. To encourage private efforts in this field, the Government have increased

the amount of annual grant for this purpose from Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 5,000 and reduced the fees from Re. 1 to As. 8 per month per pupil.

474. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure on primary education was Rs. 22.51 lakhs as against Rs. 22.29 lakhs in the previous year.

Education of special classes and communities

475. **BACKWARD CLASSES** — The Government continued the policy of providing special facilities to members of the communities, which are backward in education, Antyaj, Raniparaj, Thakardas, Waghers, and Muslims. Poor and deserving students of these communities are given freeships in all secondary schools, and there are special freeships for them in the Kalabhavan, and the Baroda College and special scholarships in all Government and educational institutions. There are also special primary schools for them with special deputy inspectors for these schools. Besides this, the Government maintain a number of hostels and boarding schools for the children of these classes.

476. **THE ANTYAJ** — The number of Government antyaj schools was 63 with 4,023 (2,339 boys, 1,684 girls) pupils as against 60 schools with 4,115 pupils in the previous year. The increase in the number of Government antyaj schools is due to the opening of 4 higher primary schools and the discontinuing of one primary school at Amreli. There were 6 private antyaj schools with 157 pupils. Besides these 14,062 antyaj children were attending Gujarati and other mixed schools. There were 18 antyaj boys in the Baroda College, and 144 pupils in the secondary schools. The total number of antyaj pupils under instruction was 18,279 or 7.9 per cent of total antyaj population, as against 20,542 in the previous year. Preference is given to students of this community for admission to all Government institutions. The Government supply books and other school requirements to the children free of charge. Thirty scholarships are awarded in primary and seventeen in secondary schools. Poor students are given free studentships in all Government institutions. There are special scholarships in the Baroda College for antyaj students. Antyaj boarding houses are maintained by Government at Baroda, Patan, Amreli and Vyara. These had 48, 27, 8 and 25 boarders respectively during the year.

A sum of Rs. 15,000 was donated some years ago, by Sheth Jugalkishor Birla to encourage religious education among the students of the depressed classes. From the income of this fund a preacher is engaged for propaganda work among this class for exhorting them to reform their habits and educate themselves.

477. **THE RANIPARAJ** — The education of boys and girls of Raniparaj and other forest tribes, living in sparsely populated places

with hardly any centres of habitation, is a problem of peculiar difficulty. Compulsion has proved unsuccessful, as the schools were few and far from the residence of pupils, attendance was very poor and teachers from the plains were not willing to work in these areas. After the first experience of compulsion, the Raniparaj area was exempted from the operation of the Act, and a scheme of grant-in-aid schools was introduced instead. The result was however not encouraging and in 1934 it was decided to reinforce compulsion.

For the benefit of the boys and girls belonging to Raniparaj areas, Government boarding houses are maintained at Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva, Wankal, Anaval and Amroli. The total number of boarders in these boarding houses was 82, 95, 30, 42, 34 and 39 respectively or 322 in all. There is also a boarding house for girls at Songadh with 45 girls. Model farms are attached to the boarding houses at Songadh and Vyara for practical training in agriculture.

To train teachers from this community encouragement is given to candidates of this community to join training schools. During the year under report, 29 students were studying in the training schools, of whom 10 were men and 19 were lady students. 2 students were studying in Kalabhavan and 173 in secondary schools, and 3 in Baroda College.

478. MUSLIMS — The number of Government Urdu schools was 67 with 7,817 pupils (5,112 boys and 2,705 girls) as against 65 schools with 8,113 pupils in the previous year. There were 19 private Urdu schools with 1,985 pupils (952 boys, 1,033 girls) as against 17 schools with 2,043 pupils in the previous year, showing an increase of 4 higher schools and a decrease of 354 pupils. Besides this, there were 13,035 muslim children studying in other primary schools and 1,140 in secondary schools. There were 48 students in the Baroda College, 4 in Kalabhavan, 7 in Training Schools, and 11 in Commerce College. The total number of muslim students under instruction was 22,062 as against 22,960 in the previous year or 9.8 per cent to the total muslim population as compared with 10.2 percentage in the previous year.

479. THE WAGHERS — The education of the waghers of Okhamandal continued to receive special attention of the Government. In the boarding house for wagher boys at Dwarka they are given manual training at the workshop attached to the institution. The number of boarders at the end of the year was 48. Special scholarships are sanctioned for students of this class studying in the Kalabhavan and the Baroda College.

480. SCHOOLS FOR DEAF, BLIND AND ORPHANAGE — There are two schools in the State for the education of the deaf, mute and the blind, one at Baroda and the other at Mehsana with 30 and 54 pupils as against 33 and 65 respectively in the previous year. The pupils

are taught tailoring, drawing, carpentry, wood-carving, cane-work, tape-weaving and music, besides reading and writing. The total expenditure incurred on these institutions was Rs. 16,361 as against Rs. 15,962 in the preceding year.

The Orphanage at Amreli was established in 1901; it had 12 inmates as against 15 in the previous year. Most of them attend the Amreli industrial school. There is also a special class for tailoring.

Training of teachers

481. TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS — For the training of primary teachers the Government maintain separate training schools for Men and Women. In the Training School for Men one third of the total candidates and in the Training School for Women all the candidates get stipends from Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 p. m.

In Training School for Men, the number of students was 371 as against 381 in the previous year. Of these 202 were living in the hostel.

In the Training School for Women, there were 278 students as against 290 in the previous year. Of these 117 were accommodated in the hostel.

The total expenditure on these training schools was Rs. 63,385 as against Rs. 63,399 in the previous year.

Technical Education

482. SOURCES OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION — Technical education in the Baroda State is imparted in the following institutions :—

- (1) Kalabhavan at Baroda.
- (2) District Industrial Schools at Amreli and Patan.
- (3) The J. N. Tata Hunnershala, a grant-in-aid institution at Navsari.

483. KALABHAVAN — The Central Polytechnic institute known as Kalabhavan was established in March 1890 by His late Highness Sir Shri Sayaji Rao Gaekwar. The work of the institute is divided into nine different departments of study each under a qualified head.

484. COURSES — The institute offers the following courses:—

1. Diploma course.
2. Certificate course.
3. Technical High School course.

Instruction in Diploma course is imparted in English while in other two courses it is given in Vernacular (Gujarati).

485. NUMBER OF PUPILS BY DEPARTMENTS — The number of students attending the Kalabhavan at the end of July 1943 in the various departments was as under:—

S. No.	Branch of study	Number of students in				
		1942-43	1941-42	1940-41	1939-40	1938-39
1	Mechanical Engineering ...	104	116	137	131	123
2	Electrical	79	94	91	80	83
3	Civil	76	99	94	88	88
4	Chemical Technology ...	93	101	95	88	76
5	Weaving Technology ...	66	75	69	61	59
6	Arts: ...	31	64	52	41	37
	(a) Drawing and painting					
	(b) Photography and process work.					
7	Architecture ...	47	75	78	67	52
8	(a) Commerce ...	11	39	42	49	40
	(b) Typewriting and Shorthand. Closed		14	17	...	...
9	Technical high school ...	19	31	37	24	22
		526	708	712	629	580

486. STATE STUDENTS — The number of Baroda State students studying in the Kalabhavan has steadily risen, this year's percentage of the Baroda State students being 65.

487. CLOSING OF THE TYPEWRITING, SHORTHAND AND MOTOR MECHANIC CLASSES — The Typewriting and Shorthand Class which was started at the institute two years ago has been closed due to poor response. The Motor-Mechanic class has now been completely closed as per Government order previously passed.

488. KALABHAVAN WORKSHOP — The Kalabhavan Workshop is run as a semi-commercial concern. Practical training of students of the departments is the principal purpose but outside orders are taken to the extent they are likely to be useful in the training of the students. Figures of work turned out and profits made are as follows for the last five years:—

Item	1942-43	1941-42	1940-41	1939-40	1938-39
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Value of work done.	54,188	63,760	24,102	26,815	24,401
Profit ...	11,125	10,978	3,389	2,250	3,008

489. EXPENDITURE AND INCOME — The total expenditure of the Kalabhavan came to Rs. 1,41,803 as against Rs. 1,52,122 in the previous year. The total income came to Rs. 21,984 as against Rs. 32,265 in the preceding year owing to the increase in the number of new admissions.

490. AMRELI INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL — The School at Amreli taught carpentry, weaving and tailoring. Proposals for making the school permanent are under consideration of the Government. There were 64 students in this school. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 6,253 as against Rs. 7,001 in the preceding year.

491. KOTAWALA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, PATAN — The R. B. Sheth. Punamchand Kotawala Industrial School at Patan started with a donation from Mrs. Hiralaxmi Kotawala offers industrial courses in (1) Turning, Fitting and Smithy (2) Wiremen's course and (3) Carpentry. During the year under report, there were 14, 9 and 7 students in the above mentioned three courses respectively and the total expenditure came to Rs. 7,146 as against Rs. 5,737 in the preceding year.

492. J. N. TATA HUNNERSHALA, NAVSARI — The Hunnershala continued its useful work in Mechanical Engineering and Cabinet making, having 60 students as against 80 in the previous year. It receives a fixed grant of Rs. 3,400 per year from the Government.

Library department

493. SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT — The Library department is organised into two sections for administrative convenience: (1) the Central Library for the city of Baroda, and (ii) the country library branch including the travelling libraries for the rest of the State.

494. CENTRAL LIBRARY — The Central Library is a lending as well as reference library. It has a complete collection of Gujarati books and the collection of Marathi books is nearing completion. The total number of books in the library was 1,46,382 of which 2,613 were added during the year.

495. CIRCULATION — The number of books circulated during the year was 1,57,687 as against 1,37,482 in the preceding year. Of these 76,034 were Gujarati, 25,534 English, 50,735 Marathi and the remaining 5,384 Hindi, Urdu etc. The number of readers was 4,207 as against 5,232 in the previous year.

496. MAHILA LIBRARY — The number of books circulated through the Mahila library was 11,250 and the number of readers was 489. The corresponding figures for the last year were 9,629 books and 645 readers.

497. CHILDREN'S LIBRARY AND PLAY ROOM — The children's library and play room was visited by 48,222 children as against 41,588 in the preceding year. The number of working days was 277 and the average daily attendance 174. The numbers of children who took books home and of the books read by them were 552 and 20,156 as against 361 and 12,010 respectively in the preceding year.

498. REFERENCE LIBRARY — About 50 readers used the reference library every day.

499. NUMBER OF LIBRARIES IN THE STATE — The following table shows the number of libraries in the State:—

Year	District and town libraries	Village libraries	Mahila libraries	Children libraries	Reading rooms		Total	
					Town	Village		
1942-43	...	46	1,351	21	13	2	71	1,504
1941-42	...	46	1,301	21	12	2	121	1,503
1940-41	...	46	1,270	18	12	4	152	1,502

Of these, 182 have their own buildings. Fifty reading rooms were made into libraries, out of which eleven got aid of Rs. 40 each as gift from the Diamond Jubilee Trust.

500. STATISTICS OF MOFUSSIL LIBRARIES — The following statement gives the working of these institutions:—

Year			Stock	Circulation	Readers
1942-43	...	...	11,42,903	10,12,811	2,45,761
1941-42	...	...	10,41,721	9,50,596	1,98,512
1940-41	...	...	9,83,309	9,01,230	1,77,713

501. TRAVELLING LIBRARIES — In the travelling libraries section, there were 28,475 books at the end of the year. The section circulated 16,431 books among 9,334 readers by sending 530 boxes. Over and above this, the travelling section distributed "Indian Information Bulletins" "War Bulletins" and other books, and pamphlets received as gifts to the town and village libraries of the State.

502. STRENGTHENING THE MOVEMENT — Efforts were continued to wean the village library authorities from the habit of spending disproportionately large amounts on periodicals chiefly dailies and

weeklies. The libraries were also served with up-to-date lists of Gujarati books published during the year for their guidance at the time of framing their budgets. Descriptive articles were written in the "Pustakalaya" giving a detailed account of the working of some of the more successful village libraries.

503. **LIBRARY ASSOCIATION** — A concomitant to the district library movement is the State library association. The association assisted in inspecting libraries and organised two classes for training village librarians. Under its auspices one mahal conference and four annual meetings of the four prants were held during the year. The association also conducts examinations for home library training course. It gets an annual aid of Rs. 1,200 from Government.

504. **PUSTAKALAYA SAHAYAK SAHAKARI MANDAL** — This is another off-shoot of the district library movement. It is a society of libraries established for the purpose of helping the libraries in getting books, periodicals and other requisites at reduced prices. It has a share capital of Rs. 50,000 and the reserve funds of libraries are invested with it. It publishes a monthly journal "Pustakalaya" for the guidance of libraries. In this, circulars and other departmental information are included free of cost.

505. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure of the Library department amounted to Rs. 85,901 as against Rs. 83,502 in the previous year. In the year Government sanctioned an extra amount of Rs. 2,952 as a help to the village libraries.

Physical education and Scout Organisation

506. **COMPULSORY PHYSICAL TRAINING** — In 1938 the Government adopted a scheme to make physical education compulsory in all the primary and secondary schools of the State. The same year physical training was made compulsory in schools of the Baroda city and talukas. During the year 1939-40, compulsory physical education was extended to Baroda district and steps were taken to extend it to Navsari and Mehsana districts. Since the year 1940-41 it has been extended to all the schools of the State, and physical training according to a well laid down syllabus is imparted in all schools of the State by the teachers specially trained for this purpose and by Gymnasium teachers.

507. **PROVISION OF TRAINED TEACHERS** — To provide trained teachers under this scheme, training classes are being conducted every year. In 1942-43 two physical training classes were held at Chalala (Amreli Prant) and Sidhpur (Mehsana District). In all 76 teachers were trained at the above two centres. Other classes were not conducted due to the prevailing hard conditions. Besides these regular

physical training classes are conducted in the Training Schools for Men and Women and in the S. T. T. College. All these classes during the year 1942-43 turned out 304 trained teachers, carrying the total number of such trained teachers to 3,768.

508. AMALGAMATION OF PHYSICAL AND SCOUT DEPARTMENTS — Mr. B. K. Naik, the Director of Physical Education, Baroda State, has been appointed as an Organising Scout Commissioner and is working as the administrative head of both the departments.

509. SCOUTING — The Scout movement has been in existence in the State for the last twenty-three years and is daily gaining more support from the public. During the year under report the number of troops and cub packs was 120 and 572 respectively and the total number of scouts and cubs rose from 18,339 to 19,946, an increase of 1,607.

510. BOY SCOUTS' WAR EFFORTS — The Baroda State scouts have been assisting in the war effort. A large number of scouts and scout-masters have joined the civic guards both in the city and in the mofussil. 30 scouts and scouters have enrolled as Air Raid Wardens and have received training at the A. R. P. Central Training school, Baroda. Elderly scouts besides qualifying themselves for first-aid, fire-fighting, signalling, messengers etc., are helping in every possible way in circulating pamphlets received from the information office among the public to allay panic and spread correct news of the war. Some of the scouts have joined the army in British India. During the year under report 30 scouts at Navsari received training in messengers' service under the supervision of the Special A. R. P. Officer for a month. The Scouts all over the State, celebrated the China and Tunisia Days.

511. TRAINING CAMPS, RALLIES AND EXCURSIONS — To impart specialised training in scout-craft and A. R. P. Training, three training camps were held. Besides these, two social service camps were held at Baroda and Sidhpur. Camps were also organised at Patan, Mehsana and Navsari to honour H. H. the Maharaja when he visited the respective districts.

512. GIRL GUIDE MOVEMENT — The girl guide movement was started in the year 1935-36 and has made a steady progress. During the year the total number of guides and blue birds was 2,761 as against 2,168 in the previous year. An annual training camp was held at Fazalpur where a large number of guides were given intensive training.

513. EXPENDITURE — The expenditure on this movement was Rs. 17,333 as against Rs. 18,698 in the previous year.

Promotion and preservation of Oriental Arts & Literature

(a) *Oriental Institute*

514. **ORIENTAL INSTITUTE** — In the institute there were 12,85 printed books and 13,982 manuscripts less 24 discarded. During the year 247 books were added. There were 242 registered readers and 2,371 books were issued.

515. **GAEKWAD ORIENTAL SERIES** — Ninety-nine books have so far been published in the series. 17 were in the press and 21 under preparation. The important publications of the year were *Alankara Mahodadhi* and work on sanskrit poetics composed by Narendraprabhasuri at the request of Minister Vastupala in 1226 edited by Pandit L. B. Gandhi. A descriptive catalogue of MSS. in the Oriental Institute, Baroda, Vol. II (*Srauta Sutras and Prayogas*) was compiled by Pandit K. S. Ramaswami Shastri. An alphabetical list of MSS. in the Oriental Institute, Baroda Vol. I compiled from the existing Card Catalogue by Pandit M. R. Nambiyar and the *Vivad Chintamani* of Vachaspati Mishra an authoritative work of Hindu Law, was translated into English by the late Mahamahopadhyaya, Sir Ganga Nath Jha.

516. **TRANSLATION BUREAU** — The Translation Bureau prepares and publishes volumes in the two series *Shri Sayaji Sahityamala* and the *Balajnanamala* for which purpose rupees two lakhs were endowed by His Highness the late Maharaja Sayaji Rao III. The Bureau has so far published 286 volumes in *Sahityamala* and 180 in *Balajnanamala* series. These translations made the treasures of other peoples accessible to the general public. Owing to the dearth of good books in Gujarati dealing with problems of rural reconstruction, it has been decided to devote a part of the income of the Diamond Jubilee Fund for publications of such books in a special series called *Shri Sayaji Gramvikasmala*. Two books were published in this series and were distributed free of charge to village libraries.

517. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure of the Oriental Institute amounted to Rs. 34,733 as against Rs. 33,215 in the previous year.

(b) *Museum and Picture Gallery*

518. **EXHIBITION** — An exhibition of modern Gujarati paintings was held in the Picture Gallery during the birth day week of His Highness the Maharaja to give an idea to the people of the high standard reached by the modern Gujarati school of painting. His Highness the Maharaja opened the exhibition which aroused widespread interest. Ten of the best paintings were acquired for the picture gallery.

519. VISITORS — The total number of visitors to the two institutions during the year was 2,14,011 as against 2,92,339 of the last year.

520. EXPENDITURE—The total expenditure on the two institutions during the year was Rs. 26,288 as against Rs. 26,965 incurred last year.

(c) *Archæology*

521. ACTIVITIES — Conservation work was proposed for the monuments at Bardia near Dwarka, the Junagadh temple at Vasai, Shaikh Farid's Tomb at Patan and the Torana at Piludra. The works have been partially executed.

The excavations in the Sahasralinga Talao were resumed. The east-west channel joining the silt chamber to the inlet sluices was completely cleaned. Drawings were prepared for the permanent conservation of the excavations and for the restoration of the colonnade to the east of the basement of a temple.

Forty-five inscriptions were copied during the year — the majority of them from the Baroda Museum and Patan. Some of the Islamic inscriptions from the latter place have been copied and are being studied. The earliest of these is a stone inscription dated V. S. 1212 (1156 A. D.) from the Baroda Museum. The latest is a copper plate grant belonging to the Sankh Narayan temple at Beyt and is dated V. S. 1959 (1902 A. D.).

His Highness the Maharaja visited the excavations in November 1942.

'The Ancient Vijnaptipatras' Memoir No. I of the Shri Pratapsinha Maharaja Rajyabhisheka Granthamala was published.

522. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure during the year under report was Rs. 13,828 as against Rs. 19,380 in the preceding year.

(d) *Encouragement to Sanskrit learning*

523. SHRI RAJKIYA SANSKRIT MAHAVIDYALAYA — In the year 1915, His Highness the late Maharaja Sayaji Rao III started this institution for preparing purohits, puraniks, pandits and shastries to meet the requirements of the modern society. Since then advanced courses in several branches of Sanskrit learning have been organised. A number of scholarships are given at this institution.

The institution had 23 classes with 162 pupils. Out of 150 students that appeared at the annual examination 115 were successful,

The total expenditure on this institution including district Sanskrit schools amounted to Rs. 9,875 as against Rs. 11,002 in the previous year.

524. DISTRICT SANSKRIT SCHOOLS — There are four Government Sanskrit schools with 128 pupils and six private Sanskrit schools with 120 pupils in the State.

In addition to the Sanskrit schools there are classes for preparing purohits at Baroda, Sinor, Petlad, Mehsana, Dehgam and Amreli. During the year under report the Government had to close these classes for want of sufficient number.

525. SHRAVANMAS DAKSHINA EXAMINATION — The Diplomas and titles conferred upon candidates in the Shravanmas Dakshina examination, are valued all over India, and pandits from distant places appear for these examinations. During the year 145 appeared and 120 passed as against 169 and 147 respectively in the previous year. For awarding daksinas to pandits passing in different examinations Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 5,000 per annum.

(e) *Indian Music*

526. MUSIC SCHOOLS — There were besides the central school of Indian Music at Baroda, 4 district music schools and twenty-two music classes. The number of pupils in the school of Indian Music at Baroda was 253. The number of pupils in district music schools at Dabhoi, Navsari, Patan and Amreli was 54, 108, 33 and 42 respectively. Music classes are attached to primary and secondary schools. The number of students attending these classes was 3,884 as against 3,674 in the previous year. The total expenditure on the institution came to Rs. 13,281 as against Rs. 12,901 in the previous year.

(f) *The Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya*

527. THE AYURVEDIC MAHAVIDYALAYA — The Ujamas Pitambar Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya at Patan started in 1922, is conducted on a grant-in-aid basis. It imparts instruction both theoretical and practical in Ayurved, the course being of five years. Students are taught Botany, Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery, Midwifery etc., on the modern lines. Practical training is given at the dispensary run by the Institute and a ward for indoor patients is also maintained. There were 98 students of whom 24 lived in the hostel.

CHAPTER XXVI

PUBLIC HEALTH

A. Medical Relief

528. MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS — The total number of medical institutions, hospitals and dispensaries, is 121 or 1 per every 23,595 persons.

529. NUMBER OF PATIENTS — There were 847 beds in the hospitals of the State as against 804 in the previous year. The total number of patients treated during the year was 11,77,084 out of whom 15,046 were indoor and 11,62,038 outdoor patients. Daily average of indoor patients was 619.27 and of outdoor 16,378.41.

The number of surgical operations (major and minor) was 1,21,520.

The five ayurvedic dispensaries in the State treated 1,16,491 patients.

The statistics of patients and diseases for which they were treated during the year as compared with those of the last year are given below :—

Disease	1942-43	1941-42
Malaria	2,62,541	2,35,538
Diseases of the skin	1,90,792	1,88,441
Diseases of the eye	1,07,410	1,07,523
Diseases of the ear	55,120	60,589
Diseases of the nose	9,146	10,247
Diseases of the throat and other respiratory organs.	85,670	90,192
Local injuries	2,45,721	1,77,466
Diseases of nervous system	15,500	17,917
Diarrhoea	33,178	31,347
Diseases of intestinal worms	4,597	4,919
Dyspepsia	48,262	43,058
Rheumatic affection	16,088	18,026
Dysentery	24,507	18,582
Venereal diseases	10,169	6,820
Tubercular diseases	3,166	3,408

530. **MEDICAL RELIEF FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN**—With the establishment of the Shree Maharani Shanta Devi Trust all efforts for the extension of medical relief for women and children have been co-ordinated and have received a new impetus.

During the year the Trust received donations of Rs. 39,140 for opening maternity homes at Orna, Vasai, Attarsumba and Nar. Besides this the Trust received a total annual contribution of Rs. 9,513 from the district local boards of Baroda, Mehsana and Amreli and some of the municipalities, as also the annual contribution of Rs. 10,000 from the Sayajirao III Memorial Fund.

Six new maternity homes at Dwarka, Vadnagar, Dhinoj, Vaso, Dhari and Chanasma were opened during the year. Maternity wards at Kalol, Shinor, Dabhoi, Karjan, Vyara and Kodinar are nearing completion and expect to begin working soon. The total expenditure incurred for initial equipment of new maternity homes was Rs. 58,986.

Two maternity homes, one at Kathor with ten beds and the other at Songhad with three beds have been sanctioned.

In the Baroda City there are 4 maternity wards. The total number of patients in these wards during the year was 3,763. Besides these there were 21 maternity homes in the districts in which were admitted 2,422 patients during the year. The total number of ante-natal cases treated was 5,869 as against 2,876 in the previous year.

Besides these maternity homes, there were 45 trained midwives attached to the different districts. They attended 3,386 labour cases, 14,629 post-natal and 10,105 ante-natal cases as against 2,463, 11,324 and 8,997 respectively during the previous year. Nurse mid-wives attached to the Amreli, Mehsana, Dharmaj and Bhadran maternity homes were also doing ante-natal and post-natal work.

Shree Maharani Chimnabai Maternity and Child Welfare League continued to do maternity and child welfare work. The lady doctor of the league examined 2,172 ante-natal cases and conducted 93 labour cases. 9,621 children were treated.

531. **SHREE PADMAVATIDEVI SANATORIUM**—To deal with tuberculosis more effectively and to provide more facilities and better treatment for T. B. patients this sanatorium has been constructed just near Baroda at the cost of Rs. 3.75 lakhs. It was opened on 17-3-1943 by Her Highness the Maharani Saheb. A specialist in this line has been appointed as superintendent and the sanatorium commenced work from 1-5-1943. Out of 80 beds 59 were occupied in two months.

The Tuberculosis Association received a donation of Rs. 0.80 lakh from certain friends of the Dewan saheb on the 12th April 1943.

The anti-tuberculosis clinic attached to the Jamnabai dispensary continued its useful work of propaganda and treatment. During the year 1,074 new patients and 4,536 contacts were examined and 1,034 home visits made.

532. SHREE SAYAJI STATE GENERAL HOSPITAL — This is the central medical institution at Baroda fully equipped and having special departments for bacteriology, radiology, dentistry, eye and midwifery each in charge of a specialist.

The number of indoor patients was 7,110 and of outdoor patients 74,898, giving a daily average of 268 and 907 respectively. The number of major and minor operations performed was 1,667 and 34,839 respectively. In the X-ray department 16,171 patients were treated. The dental department treated 10,000 patients and performed 6,548 operations. The eye department performed 463 operations. In the bacteriological laboratory 16,406 specimens of pathological interest were examined. The total expenditure on the hospital was Rs. 2.97 lakhs as against Rs. 2.81 lakhs in the previous year.

533. MENTAL HOSPITAL — The mental hospital had 101 patients as against 103 in the previous year.

534. LEPER ASYLUM — The leper asylum at Anasuya treated 126 patients as against 131 in the previous year.

535. ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT — The number of patients who were given anti-rabic treatment at Baroda, Navsari, Patan and Amreli was 1,026 as against 942 in the previous year. 13,847 injections were given.

536. REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS — 107 practitioners including doctors, vaidyas, hakims and others were registered during the year as against 136 in the previous year.

537. INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY — 336 junior red cross groups were organised in schools. There were 4,656 boys and 1,517 girls enrolled in them. Lectures on ambulance work, nursing, hygiene and sanitation were delivered throughout the State. In all 230 candidates passed the examination in different subjects.

538. "DAIS" TRAINED — 4 dais were trained during the year in the class maintained out of the Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Jamnabai dispensary.

539. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 9.42 lakhs as against Rs. 8.67 lakhs in the previous year.

This does not include the expenditure incurred from the Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust Fund.

540. SCHEME OF SUBSIDISED DISPENSARIES — 4 Ayurvedic dispensaries on subsidy basis were started at Avakhal, Bahial, Parujan and Velan during the year. They started work in February 1943 and 4,883 patients took advantage of these dispensaries during the period of six months.

541. ATTACHED AREAS — There were 20 dispensaries working in the attached areas. Efforts are being made to give equal facilities for medical relief in these newly attached areas as in other parts of the State.

B. Sanitation

542. GENERAL — Sanitation forms the principal function of municipalities in towns and of panchayats in villages. Sanitation of towns was generally satisfactory during the year. The first part of the Foods Act has been applied to all the municipal towns in the State. Efforts were also made to improve village sanitation.

543. INSPECTION — The Sanitary Commissioner and the Assistant Sanitary Commissioners inspected 40 towns and 139 villages during the year. The district inspectors looked after the sanitation work and vaccination in 590 villages.

544. KOSAMBA HEALTH UNIT — To study problems relating to village sanitation, to educate the people and to introduce improvements, a health unit has been constituted for the 30 villages under the Kosamba rural reconstruction centre. The unit is in charge of a medical officer. A lady sub-assistant surgeon attends to ante-natal and post-natal cases.

All the villages were cleaned and their water sources disinfected. Anti-malarial work was done and precautionary measures against cholera were taken. 2,546 persons were inoculated. Windows, soakage pits, chokadis, etc., were constructed for village people, Government bearing half the cost of such works.

702 students of 9 schools were medically examined. 15 village dispensaries were working in the centre. 346 patients were treated. 12 magic lantern shows were arranged.

C. Vital statistics

545. BIRTHS AND DEATHS — The registration of births and deaths is compulsory in the State. During the year, there were 1,02,118 births and 71,356 deaths as against 1,12,268 births and 68,814 deaths in the previous year. The ratio of births and deaths per mille of

population was 35.8 and 25.0 respectively. Of 1,02,118 births 53,202 were males and 48,916 females. Of 71,356 deaths, 37,542 were males and 33,814 females.

546. INFANT MORTALITY — There were 15,270 deaths of infants below one year as against 15,695 in the previous year, giving a ratio of 149.5 per thousand registered births as against 140 per thousand in the previous year. The infant mortality rate was the highest in the Baroda city and the lowest in the Navsari district.

547. CAUSES OF DEATHS — The following table shows the number of deaths from different causes :—

Disease			Number of deaths	Ratio per mille of population
Fever	...	...	60,294	21.1
Plague	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	386	.1
Small-pox	...	...	80	.02
Measles	...	...	140	.04
Dysentery & Diarrhoea	...	...	1,272	.4
Cough	...	...	1,522	.5
Pneumonia	...	...	432	.1
Consumption	...	...	801	.2
Typhoid	...	...	117	.03
Influenza	...	...	46	.01
Meningitis	...	...	8	.002
Diphtheria	...	...	10	.003
Injuries and accidents	...	...	487	.1
Other causes	...	...	5,761	2.0
Total	...	...	71,356	25.0

The classification cannot be said to be accurate as diseases with the symptoms of fever are often registered under "fever" due to bad reporting.

548. VACCINATION WORK — 96,538 primary vaccinations and 69,992 re-vaccinations were performed during the year. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations was 94.3 and 38.3 as against 92.6 and 26.7 in the previous year respectively.

The total expenditure on account of vaccination was Rs. 51,431 as against Rs. 49,573 in the previous year. The average cost of each case was As. 4.11 as against As. 5.7 in the previous year.

549. PREVENTION OF DISEASES — Anti-malarial measures were conducted in the Baroda city, in 12 towns and 347 villages. Quinine and Ayurvedic medicines were distributed free in the affected areas. 100 mosquito nets were distributed in 10 villages.

Anti-guinea worm measures were taken in 36 villages of the Mehsana and Baroda districts. 103 water sources were disinfected by the lining process. 139 patients were treated in 15 villages.

232 fresh cases of tuberculosis were registered in the Baroda city and 57 in other towns.

550. EPIDEMICS — There were 728 cases and 386 deaths from cholera during the year. Cholera broke out in 98 places. Two sub-assistant surgeons were specially appointed to deal with epidemics. 56,854 persons were inoculated.

The State was free from plague during the year.

There were mild epidemics of small-pox in parts of the State. 161 cases were reported of which 80 were fatal.

205 cases of typhoid were reported during the year, of which 62 were fatal.

Sporadic cases of meningitis, leprosy and diphtheria were reported from some towns. There were 25 cases of meningitis of which 16 were fatal and 7 diphtheria cases of which 4 were fatal.

551. PROPAGANDA — The department carried on propaganda with the help of cinema and magic lantern shows, lectures and exhibitions. 110 cinema and 17 lantern shows were held in 7 towns and 26 villages. 4 health exhibitions and baby shows were arranged during the year.

552. PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY — 984 samples of milk and 86 of ghee were examined, of which 661 samples of milk and 25 of ghee were found adulterated. The offenders were prosecuted.

CHAPTER XXVII

MISCELLANEOUS

(i) Religious and Charitable institutions

553. INSTITUTIONS UNDER GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT — The number of institutions under direct Government management was 50, as in the previous year. The local revenue officers manage these institutions except Kedareshwar Khichadi and Gyarmi Karkhana, which distribute alms to Hindu and Muslim destitutes in the Baroda city. These two are managed by the head office of the department. The properties of these institutions were valued at Rs. 22 lakhs and the total expenditure was Rs. 0.81 lakh as against Rs. 0.80 lakh in the previous year.

554. FUNDS — Two funds have been constituted for the benefit of the institutions: (i) the general fund and (ii) the reserve fund. The general fund is created out of the net savings of the institutions and is intended for religious and charitable objects of public utility. The fund increased from Rs. 7.16 lakhs to Rs. 7.43 lakhs after meeting an expenditure of Rs. 0.50 lakh during the year. The main grants paid out of this fund are given below :—

Amount paid Rs.	Name of the institutions to which the amounts are paid
12,000-0-0	Contributions to certain dispensaries in the Mehsana district.
3,000-0-0	The Patan Ayurvedic Pathashala.
300-0-0	The Maharani Maternity Ward in Baroda.
9,232-0-0	The Baroda Rajkiya Sanskrit Pathashala.
471-2-3	The Amreli Sanskrit Pathashala.
6,615-5-6	Expenditure of the Seminar, Baroda College.
12,000-0-0	Government have written off debt owed to them by the Shankhanarayan temple at Beyt.

The reserve fund is intended to meet extraordinary expenditure such as extensive repairs to buildings etc. All institutions contribute rateably to this fund. The total contribution to the fund during the year was Rs. 0.5 lakh and the balance at the close of the year Rs. 0.17 lakh.

555. GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTIONS—The State exercises general supervision over religious and charitable institutions under private management receiving grants-in-aid from the Government. Institutions with an annual income of Rs. 200 or more are required, however, to get their quinquennial budgets approved by the Government.

There were 3,810 such institutions – 3,264 for Hindus and 546 for Muslims. The total grant to these institutions in the form of inami villages and cash payments was Rs. 1.39 lakhs.

556. INSTITUTIONS FOR RELIEF OF PAUPERS ETC. — The total number of institutions intended for the relief of the poor, are nineteen. There are, besides three orphanages, two schools for the deaf and dumb and one leper asylum.

557. ITINERANT RELIGIOUS PREACHERS—Six itinerant religious preachers worked during the year at Amreli, Becharaji, Sidhpur, Kadi, Patan and Chandod. They delivered simple discourses on the fundamental principles of religion.

558. ABOLITION OF TAXES—The Government abolished the Pilgrims taxes levied at Dwarka and Beyt and the fees for Gomtisnan.

(ii) Court of Wards

559. GENERAL—Under the law relating to wards, the head of the department is authorised to assume control over estates of minors and others, who are physically or mentally unable to manage them. A charge of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the income is levied for supervision during the minority of the wards, and of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for estates which are continued under management after the wards have attained the age of 21. Subas are guardians of wards in their respective districts.

560. ADMINISTRATION—The number of estates under the court of wards increased from 74 to 75 during the year. The estates of 6 wards were taken under management and of 5 wards were released during the year. The value of properties managed was Rs. 41.08 lakhs. Their income and expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 1.67 lakhs and Rs. 1.34 lakhs respectively. Of the total income Rs. 1.53 lakhs were realised during the year and Rs. 0.14 lakh remained in arrears.

The debts due to the estates amounted to Rs. 5.68 lakhs and the debts which the estates had to pay to Rs. 1.54 lakhs. The total saving effected in favour of the estates at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 7.79 lakhs as against Rs. 8.67 lakhs in the preceding year. The savings are invested in approved securities.

561. EDUCATION OF WARDS—Of the 91 wards 24 attended primary schools, 30 secondary schools and the remaining 37 wards were either too young or unfit for study.

(iii) Government Press and Stationery

562. THE PRESS — All printing work for the State and the State Railways and printing of vernacular text books is done at the State Press. The Press also supplies stationery to Government departments.

Work of the value of Rs. 2.95 lakhs was done at the Press during the year, as against Rs. 3.40 lakhs in the previous year. Besides this, binding work of the value of Rs. 164 was got done through private agencies.

The Press employed 226 men, as in the previous year. The monthly wages bill was Rs. 5,293 and supervision charges came to Rs. 2,621 per month.

The type foundry was run satisfactorily. It cast 4,555 lbs. of types during the year as against 7,472 lbs. in the previous year.

563. STATIONERY — Stationery articles of the value of Rs. 1.42 lakhs were supplied to Government offices.

(iv) The Raj Daftardar's Office

564. WORKING INSPECTION ETC. — The sorting of old daftars of the Barkhali and Nyayamantri departments was carried out during the year. 1,389 requisitions for copies from Government offices and 267 applications from private parties were attended to.

The Raj Daftardar and his staff toured for 59 days in the Mehsana and Navsari districts and inspected the records of 84 offices.

A clerk from the department was deputed to the Imperial Record Room, Delhi, to study renovation of documents.

(v) The Information Bureau

565. THE BUREAU — The Information Bureau is under a special officer. The bureau issued press notes on important measures taken by the Government. It also published a monthly bulletin in Gujarati for circulation specially in rural areas.

At the request of the War Propaganda Sub-Committee, the bureau issues weekly bulletins in Gujarati giving news about the war and of war efforts in the State and elsewhere. This bulletin is widely circulated.

The Information officer is in charge of the Secretariat Library and is the secretary of the War Propaganda Sub-Committee, the Central Flood Relief Committee and the organiser of the National War Front.

The Information officer acts as the City Press adviser. The Information Bureau has organised a Press room which is kept supplied with periodicals and books of reference and has proved useful to representatives of the Press.

(vi) Boards and Committees

566. **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES** — Besides those described in the previous chapters, the following are some of the important ones working in the State :—

Boards

(a) **THE EDUCATION BOARD** — The board is constituted to consider important questions relating to education in the State. It studies problems regarding the syllabus of studies in State schools, adult education, vocational education and the like. There are 18 members on the board, of whom 11 are non-officials.

(b) **THE CENTRAL LIBRARIES BOARD** — This board was appointed in 1941 for the final selection and purchase of books and to control and manage the following three libraries :—

- (1) The Baroda Central Library.
- (2) The Huzur Political Office Library.
- (3) The Secretariat Library.

The Curator of the Central Library acts as Secretary.

(c) **THE CENTRAL EXAMINATION BOARD** — It superintends and controls departmental examinations. It prescribes the syllabus of studies, appoints examiners and conducts the examinations. It also supervises the training given to probationers in the higher grade. It is presided over by a Naib Dewan. The Sar Suba, the Accountant General, a judge of the High Court and the Principal, Baroda College are the other members. The Naib Sar Suba acts as secretary.

Committees

(a) **THE SERVICES COMMITTEE** — All appointments to posts, not filled by promotion, are made on the recommendation of the Services Committee. The Committee consists of a Naib Dewan, who is the President, the Vidyadhikari, the Accountant General and the Principal of the Baroda College. The Chief Assistant to the Ministers acts as secretary.

(b) **THE BUDGET COMMITTEE** — To scrutinise the estimates of the different departments and all proposals involving expenditure above Rs. 5,000 the Budget Committee was constituted in 1930.

It is presided over by a Naib Dewan and the Accountant General, one retired officer of the State, two gentlemen from Sardar or Assamdar class and three members from the Dhara Sabha nominated by Government act as members.

(c) THE AUCTION COMMITTEE — The Central Auction Committee is presided over by a Naib Dewan. The head of the department, one member from the Sardar or Assamdar class, karkhandar and one additional member appointed by His Highness work as members of the committee. The committee has the power to confirm final bids in all auctions relating to any department upto the value of Rs. 15,000 in the case of immovable property and Rs. 1,00,000 in the case of movable property.

(d) THE STUDENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BARODA COLLEGE) — The main function of the committee, consisting of nine members are :—

- (1) to advise college students about possible avenues of employment in the State and outside,
 - (2) to help them to secure admission to professional colleges, and
 - (3) to advise them in regard to foreign studies.
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Summary of important features in the administration

THE WAR AND THE STATE ACTIVITIES — During the year, the war entered on a new phase and the Allies everywhere wrested the initiative from the enemy. His Highness the Maharaja in his district tours explained the State's attitude to the war in his messages to the people.

The Baroda squadron of the R. A. F. and H. M. I. S. "Baroda" are continuing to maintain high traditions. The second infantry proceeded on war duty outside the State. The Mechanical Transport Sections also continued on active service.

The training of technicians, motor transport drivers and mechanics, and candidates of the Auxiliary Nursing Service, continues.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb gave a donation of £. 6,000 to the R. A. F. Welfare Fund, Rs. 75,000 to the I. A. F. Welfare Fund, and £. 500 for Christmas and New Year Gifts to the Members of the Baroda Squadron of Spitfires. The State war gifts fund now exceeds Rs. 2.43 lakhs. In addition to the donation of Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of five armoured carriers, this fund has given Rs. 10,000 to the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association, Rs. 5,000 for opening two welfare centres for the Baroda Army, and Rs. 5,000 for National War Front activities.

Investments in 3 per cent loan and interest-free defence bonds have amounted to Rs. 83.63 lakhs and Rs. 25 lakhs respectively.

The National War Front movement is spreading to the remotest villages.

2. ATTACHED AREA — A notable event of the year is the attachment to the Baroda State of 250 States, talukas and estates in Kathiawar, Sabarkantha and Revakantha. The area attached to the Baroda State is approximately 5,400 sq. miles, and the population about 5,20,000. Of these 60 are semi jurisdictional, and the rest are non-jurisdictional grouped under 14 thanas.

An annual grant of Rs. 50,000 from the Diamond Jubilee Trust and the formation of a Trust yielding an annual income of Rs. 50,000 for rural reconstruction, and the allotment of a sum of Rs. 10,000 a year for the education to the sons, etc., of Chiefs and Talukdars were announced in a message of H. H. the Maharaja Saheb.

3. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS—The working of the reforms is reviewed in chapter V. The year was one of considerable legislative activity and much interest was shown by the members of the Dhara Sabha in all branches of the administration.

4. POLITICAL SITUATION—The situation created in British India by the resolution of the A. I. C. C. on the 8th August 1942 had its repercussions in the State. The happenings are described in chapter VII. It is to be hoped that the bitterness created by the movement in the State will soon be forgotten and harmonious relations restored.

The year was one of strain and anxiety caused by the conditions created by the war and the civil disobedience movement. The police force had to be reinforced all over the State and special measures organised for keeping the peace and dealing with the increase in crimes. The force on the whole proved equal to the demands on it and was successful in maintaining peace and detecting and prosecuting offences.

5. BUDGET AND FINANCE—The finances of the State have been satisfactory on the whole and the activities of the development departments have continued progressively.

The budget estimates of the year provided for a revenue of Rs. 272.48 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 272.13 lakhs and anticipated a surplus of Rs. 0.35 lakh. The year, however, proved better than anticipated. The receipts were Rs. 363.67 lakhs showing an improvement of Rs. 91.19 lakhs and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 304.63 lakhs exceeding the estimates by Rs. 32.50 lakhs. The year closed with a surplus of Rs. 59.04 lakhs.

The receipts from land revenue amounted to Rs. 106.31 lakhs of which Rs. 11.24 lakhs were transferred to the Land Revenue equalisation fund which stood at Rs. 74.51 lakhs at the end of the year. Rs. 30 lakhs have been set apart for post-war reconstruction and Rs. 10 lakhs for development schemes in the attached areas.

The net assets of the State at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 11.94 crores. Of these, Rs. 5.84 crores represent capital invested in railways, Rs. 41 lakhs in electric works, Rs. 49 lakhs in Okha and other ports and Rs. 27 lakhs in other concerns. The liquid assets now amounted to Rs. 6.06 crores. Of these, Rs. 350 lakhs are set apart for the Reserve fund, and Rs. 74.51 lakhs for the Land Revenue equalisation fund. Interest earned on the Reserve fund is utilised for providing capital expenditure.

6. SEASON—The rainfall was favourable in all the districts except in Okhamandal. In Okhamandal it was less than the previous year and below the decennial average. In the Baroda district there

was an excess in the early part of the season which caused damage to sowings in some areas; resowings were however possible. Relief measures were sanctioned for Okhamandal and Baroda City. These included remissions and suspensions of land revenue and tagavi instalments, postponements of execution of decrees and gratuitous relief. The total remissions amounted to Rs. 3,542 and suspensions to Rs. 2.28 lakhs in Okhamandal. The Government also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 13,500 as tagavi for maintenance, purchase of seeds, bulls etc. Besides this to relieve distress by floods in Baroda district Rs. 10,000 were distributed as free gift to the poor in the Baroda City and adjoining areas.

7. **FOOD POSITION IN THE STATE** — The surpluses of wheat and millets from Mehsana and Amreli districts were made available in the Baroda and Navsari districts. Rice was in deficit and people had to substitute other grains for it.

The Government have established food committees in urban and rural areas and special officers have been appointed under Director of Civil Supplies to see that foodgrains in surplus areas are made available for the deficit areas. Price control committees composed of representatives of all interests including consumers have been established throughout the State.

The "Grow More Food" campaign which was launched in the previous year continued to be in operation. The Government prescribed minimum areas all over the State on which it was obligatory for agriculturists to grow food crops. The Government also gave concessions for growing more food. They are detailed in para 190.

As a result of these measures there was an increase of about 2,00,000 acres under food crops over last year.

Besides the concessions mentioned above, the Government have allotted Rs. 9 lakhs for subsidies for well sinking and for a scheme for the digging of wells by the Government for protecting crops without expecting a return on the outlay.

8. **CHEAP GRAIN SHOPS** — The organisation of cheap grain shops has been one of the chief items in the policy of the State. These shops are organised either by local officers or non-officials or by institutions like municipal councils. Fair price shops have also been organised in the Baroda City to prevent retail sellers from charging high prices and the emergence of black markets. There were 125 cheap grain shops and 11 fair price shops in the State at the end of the year. A Central Store has been opened in the Baroda City to make stocks available for the local shops.

The Government made it obligatory on every owner of a factory to open a grain shop at or near the place of employment for supply of food grains to the employees of the factory and their dependents. 1,12,399 persons were supplied foodgrains at these shops at the rates fixed by the Government.

9. SUGAR — Sugar rationing was introduced during the year. The rates for wholesale dealers ranged from Rs. 15-8-0 to Rs. 17-0-0 a standard maund and those for retail sales ranged from Rs. 16-0-0 to Rs. 17-8-0 a standard maund. The highest rate was Re. 0-3-6 a lb.

10. STANDARD CLOTH — The Baroda Government agreed to participate in the Standard Cloth Scheme of the Government of India. Out of 2,97,000 yards of cloth received 2,29,446 yards were sold till April. Care is taken to see that the cloth reaches those intended to benefit by the scheme. An Advisory Committee has been appointed for supervision of arrangements for distribution.

11. INFLATION — Steps were taken by the Government to check inflation. Ordinances have been issued prohibiting issues of capital, floatation of new companies without special sanction. We have also issued the Cotton (forward contracts and options prohibitions) Order and the Oil Seeds (forward contracts prohibition) Order and prohibited forward contracts and options in bullion. Arrangements have also been made for levying in the State the equivalent of the excess profits tax in British India and funding the amounts so collected to be returned one year after the war, for the benefit of the industry or business.

12. SAVINGS CAMPAIGN — When agricultural prices showed a rise and wages of labourers increased, the Government took special steps to constitute savings banks and thrift societies for the benefit of the labour. The number of savings banks has increased from 9 in 1937-38 to 38 during the year. The Government have placed two officers on special duty to spread the movement among labourers. These have organised and registered 19 labourers' societies in 17 mills of the State and their membership has risen to about 13,960.

Special facilities are afforded to villagers to invest in defence loans and savings banks.

13. THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF WAR ON THE STATE — In the administration report for the year 1941-42 the effects of the war on the economic life of the State were described and the conclusions drawn were (i) that agriculturists in the State have largely benefited by the high prices and (ii) that it pays them to cultivate foodgrains and only the higher grade cotton. These conclusions still hold good.

Industries are working to full capacity to meet the war time demands of defence services and of the civilian population and to fill

the gaps created by the difficulty and interruption of imports. Existing industries have expanded and new ones have arisen; employment has increased.

14. **LEGISLATION** — There was much legislative activity in the year. The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act is one of the important Acts passed.

15. **EDUCATION** — Among the development activities, mass education occupies a leading place. Chapter XXV describes the progress of education during the year.

There were in all 3,04,021 pupils under instruction in 2,587 educational institutions. Of these 1,84,555 were boys and 1,19,466 girls. Co-education, introduced a long time ago, is becoming increasingly popular. Of 1,19,466 girls under instruction, only 46,512 were studying in separate schools for girls while the remaining 61 per cent were studying in mixed schools.

The Government have been devoting special attention to the health of the children in schools. Compulsory physical training, first introduced in 1938 in the schools of the Baroda City and taluka, was extended to all the schools of the State in 1940-41. Teachers are specially trained for this purpose. During the year 380 teachers were trained making a total of 3,768 trained teachers.

In spite of adverse conditions the adult literacy campaign was carried on. During the year under report, 397 classes attended by 4,712 illiterates were conducted. The experiment of infants' classes is being continued.

In the field of primary education, the department continued its efforts to consolidate and improve the existing system. The revised primary education code has been sanctioned. "The Pratap Reading Series" is progressing satisfactorily. The first three books have been published and introduced in schools. Fourth book is ready for the press and books fifth to seventh are nearing completion.

As the improvement of elementary education depends mainly on the efficiency of the teachers, training facilities are steadily extended and improved. The number of trained teachers increased from 3,831 in 1928-29 to 5,292 or 82 per cent of the total strength.

The policy of developing the rural library system as an essential complement to mass education is being steadily pursued. The number of village libraries now stands at 1,351 as against 1,301 in the previous year. The library movement is described on pages 180-182.

The number of primary schools has increased from 2,353 to 2,384 during the year with 2,72,909 pupils. The percentage of boys

and girls under instruction to the total male and female population was 12.5 and 8.6 respectively. The average daily attendance was 79.6 per cent.

The number of pupils in secondary schools was 26,789 as against 29,205 in the previous year. Of these 2,912 were girls. The policy of Government is to encourage private bodies by giving grants-in-aid to open and maintain English schools. The response has been encouraging.

Baroda now has three colleges — an Arts and Science College, a Secondary Teachers' Training College and a Commerce College. All the three colleges continued to work satisfactorily.

The Kalabhavan with its five district industrial schools continued to work satisfactorily. Of these 6 technical institutions, 2 are private industrial schools for women. Sir Homi Mehta has donated Rs. 2.0 lakhs for starting a technical institution in Navsari.

16. WOMEN'S EDUCATION — There were 1,19,466 women under instruction during the year as against 1,20,427 in the previous year. Of these 1,15,671 were attending primary schools and 2,912 secondary schools. Out of 1,115 students in the Baroda College, 140 were women students. In the Teachers' Training School for Women there were 278 students. In industrial schools including the Kalabhavan there were 357 women. 105 women students were studying in the other educational institutions of the State.

17. THE "DEPRESSED" CLASSES — The policy of Government is to raise the Antyaj community to take its place on a basis of equality with other sections of the people, through education and economic uplift and by affording legal protection for its elementary rights. The position of the depressed classes who form 15 per cent of the population is steadily improving. The Government have provided extensive facilities for their education. Preference is given to students of this community for admission to all Government institutions. Special scholarships are reserved for them in the college and secondary schools. Antyaj boarding houses are maintained at Baroda, Patan, Amreli and Vyara. The total number of Antyaj pupils under instruction was 18,279 or 7.9 per cent of their population. The policy of the Government is that pupils from this class should be educated in the ordinary schools along with caste Hindu pupils. There were 63 special Antyaj schools with 4,023 pupils. There were 144 Antyaj pupils in the secondary schools and 18 in the Baroda College.

18. BACKWARD AREAS AND TRIBES — Paragraphs 475-479 of the report describe the measures taken for the education of the Raniparaj and other tribes in the backward areas. Boarding houses are established for their special benefit and the education imparted combines literary

instruction with vocational courses. In these boarding houses there were 322 Raniparaj boys receiving instruction; and there were 45 Raniparaj girls in the boarding house at Songadh. In the Training school for teachers there were 29 Raniparaj students of whom 10 were men and 10 women. 2 Raniparaj students were studying in Kalabhavan, 173 in secondary schools and 3 in the Baroda College. There were 48 Wagher boys in the boarding house at Dwarka. 68 students were receiving instruction in the Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda and 45 at Dabhoi where a special agricultural bias school for backward class people has been recently started.

19. SOCIAL PROBLEM AND LEGISLATION — The social legislation is reviewed on pages 94-104 of the report. During the year the Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act (No. XXXI of 1942) was passed.

The Child Marriage Prevention Act which has been in operation for the last 39 years has succeeded in eliminating the marriages of children under eight years. They now form only 1 in 71. Even though the marriageable age was raised in 1932 to 18 for boys and 14 for girls and though the total number of child marriages has increased from the years 1934-35, the proportion of child marriages is less than half of what it was in 1916 - 33.2 in 1916 and 12.2 in 1942-43. The effect of this social legislation on the condition of society is reflected in the census figures of 1941. During the last forty years, the average age of marriage has risen by about five years.

The Hindu divorce law has been in force for the last twelve years. It was specially designed for persons belonging to castes in which divorce is not allowed by custom. Such persons, however, have been slow to resort to this law due to the force of custom and tradition. Recently however, they have shown a greater willingness to seek relief under this law: the number of such cases in the first five years was only 7 as against 26 in the last five years.

Hindu women are now asserting the enlarged property rights given to them by the amendments in the Acts relating to Hindu Law enacted in 1933. Generally among the higher castes, these rights are conceded as women's property rights have always been more extensive in this part of India than elsewhere.

Customs and traditions have restricted the exercise of the opportunity for wider choice in marriage under the Special Marriage Act. During the thirty four years the Act has been in operation, only 71 marriages were registered under it. The action of this legislation however is mainly confined to inter-marriages amongst different sub-castes within a religious community.

The Caste Tyranny Removal Act has met with limited success. The number of prosecutions under it has been small. The operation

of this Act shows the difficulties of social legislation when not sufficiently supported by public opinion. People are reluctant to take the risk of embittered relations with the leaders of the caste which a prosecution or even giving evidence involves.

The Hindu Monogamy Act has much popular support behind it. In one case a first wife applied for the prosecution of the husband for remarriage and the case resulted in conviction.

20. AGRICULTURE—The activities of the department continued to progress satisfactorily. Investigations into diseases affecting crops like cotton root rot were carried out and samples of soils, water, fertilising substances and feeding stuffs were analysed by the agricultural chemist. Crop research was conducted on the Government farms. Efforts to select and evolve types of cotton, best suited to the soil and climate of the different districts, were continued. Experiments with bajra, wheat and ground-nuts were continued and several promising types isolated.

Separate farms have been established for each of the distinctive tracts of the State to experiment with crops and processes of agriculture and discover those best suited to the soil, the climate and conditions of the area, and to help to provide the need for pedigree seeds, modern implements and manure. There are nine such farms in the State. Important schemes of research were in progress in co-operation with the Indian Central Cotton Committee and the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, in addition to schemes undertaken by the State itself.

The crux of the problem in agriculture is to link the work of the experimental farms with the villages and to induce the agriculturist to adopt the varieties, methods of farming and collection of manure etc., which the farms after numerous trials have found to be the best suited to the tract. A solution of this problem is attempted on a comprehensive plan which includes intensive work units, agricultural education, tours and exhibitions and rural reconstruction centres.

There were 19 intensive units serving 411 villages. The kamdars in charge of these units carried selected experiments on farms of agriculturists as an object lesson to the villages, and also distributed improved seeds and implements and showed improved methods of collecting manures.

The itinerant carts made 29 circuits touching 252 villages.

The rural reconstruction centres at Kosamba and Karjan are proving an efficient agency for spreading agricultural knowledge.

The results of the propaganda are seen in the rapid increase in the use of improved seeds, fertilisers and modern implements.

To make people alive to the seriousness of the loss due to soil erosion and to teach the best ways of checking it, the Government have established a separate organisation with a soil conservation officer under the control of a committee consisting of the Sar Suba, Commissioner of Agriculture and the Conservator of Forests. To carry on experiments on a large scale for working out the best methods of approach to different types of soil erosion, two district centres have been established – one at Dhari in Amreli district and the other at Hirapura in Mehsana district. The results at both the centres are being watched with interest.

The section devoted to livestock and veterinary work is rendering useful services. Preventive inoculations and vaccinations for hæmorrhagic septicaemia, anthrax and rinderpest were given to 91,518 animals.

The department has made progress in all activities and justified the increase in expenditure from Rs. 1.8 lakhs in 1934–35 to Rs. 7.86 lakhs in the year under report. It is estimated that the department by the services it has rendered adds about Rs. 50 lakhs to the income of the agriculturists every year.

21. ECONOMIC LEGISLATION — The economic legislation in the State, reviewed on pages 104–106 of the report, falls under three heads (i) tenancy, (ii) debt, and (iii) protection of backward classes.

22. THE TENANCY LEGISLATION — The Rent Regulation Act and the Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act – have had beneficial effects. Under the Rent Regulation Act, the Raniparaj tenant has been assured a fair rent and security of tenure and safeguarded from arbitrary imposts. Another advantage both to the tenant and the landlord has been that civil suits for arrears of rent have ceased; the tenant has been saved the cost of litigation and the landlord the lengthy procedure of civil courts. The naib subas in most cases are able to settle rents by agreement between parties, a procedure which ensures harmony. The Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act has had the desired effect and the relations between tenants and ankadedars are now established on reasonable and cordial basis.

Two measures comprise the legislation in protection of interests of agriculturist debtors – the Agriculturist Debt Regulation Act and the Debt Conciliation Act. The former was designed to give relief to agriculturists from the effects of the fall in prices of agricultural produce due to the depression and has been freely availed of by agriculturists of all classes. The object of the Debt Conciliation Act is to reduce the burden of agricultural indebtedness through conciliation. It sets up conciliation boards to examine the accounts and compose the debts through compromise. During the year, the boards effected conciliation in 26 cases in which the total claim of Rs. 77,110 was settled for Rs. 34,991 or 45% of the demand.

The Backward Classes Land Protection Act is intended to save the Raniparaj and other backward classes from being ousted from their lands by money lenders.

23. JUSTICE — The arrangements for supervision and inspection of courts and scrutiny of judgments of munsiff-magistrates worked well. The scrutiny has an educative value specially in the case of junior magistrates, and their work shows steady improvement.

The duration of ordinary civil suits in district courts showed a decrease from 367 days to 346 days, but in the munsiff courts it increased from 157 to 163 days. In criminal cases the rate of disposal was slightly slower than in the previous year.

24. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III DIAMOND JUBILEE TRUST — The notable part played by the Diamond Jubilee Trust in rural reconstruction is described in chapter XII of the report.

The Shree Sayajirao III Diamond Jubilee Trust was created by H. H. the late Maharaja Sayajirao III by a personal gift of one crore of rupees. The income from the fund of one crore of rupees is utilised for supplementing the efforts of the Government to improve village life in all its aspects — economic, social and cultural.

A ten-year programme has been adopted and grouped under three heads :—

- (a) works of public utility in individual villages,
- (b) schemes for backward areas and classes, and
- (c) headquarter schemes benefiting large areas or sections of the village population.

The expenditure on village works was Rs. 2·12 lakhs, on schemes for backward areas and classes Rs. 0·48 lakh and on headquarter schemes Rs. 0·29 lakh.

25. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III MEMORIAL FUND — To perpetuate the memory of His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III, a sum of rupees one crore was endowed by His Highness the Maharaja on the occasion of his accession to the throne. The fund is intended to finance schemes benefiting all sections of the people without any distinction of caste or creed. The income of the fund is Rs. 3·50 lakhs a year. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 13·50 lakhs.

The utilisation of this fund awaits the cessation of hostilities. Funds are being accumulated from this Trust for an Engineering College to be opened after the war and for an institute for graduate courses in weaving technology. Four minor schemes, however, have

been so far sanctioned. (i) An annual endowment of Rs. 21,000 has been made to the Benares Hindu University for establishing a Chair to be called "The Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilisation" and for three fellowships attached to it. (ii) A grant of Rs. 10,000 a year has been made to Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust for medical aid to women and children of the State. (iii) Rs. 15,000 a year have been set apart for awarding scholarships to the sons of Sardars, Assamdars and the like for secondary and higher education. (iv) Scholarships for textile chemistry and chemical engineering, available to B. Sc. students, have also been instituted.

26. **DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLE'S VILLAGE UPLIFT FUND** — The total fund amounts to Rs. 7.59 lakhs. The yearly income of interest on this fund is Rs. 26,875. The income is utilised for awarding scholarships to bonafide agriculturists for obtaining practical instruction in agriculture, horticulture and subsidiary occupations like leather tanning, paper making, tailoring, etc. A substantial amount is spent each year for encouraging khaddar industry in the State. Scholarships amounting to Rs. 2,834 were awarded to 77 candidates for training in agriculture, and Rs. 1,464 were awarded to 54 candidates for training in cottage industries. Rs. 8,455 were given as grant to 18 institutions producing khadi. Rs. 3,955 were sanctioned for training 12 young women from rural areas in cottage industries and in rural problems at the Maharani Chimmabai Industrial Home at Baroda.

27. **LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT** — District local boards carried on anti-malarial campaigns with fairly good results. Schemes for eradication of guinea worm were in operation at Sankheda, Patan, Chanasma, and Harij. The Mehsana and Amreli boards specially attended to tree planting.

The Baroda city and District municipalities continued their anti-malarial campaigns with good results.

The Baroda City Municipality conducted propaganda for popularising vaccination against small-pox and inoculation against typhoid.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb gave the special grant of Rs. 9.50 lakhs to the District local boards for accelerating their programme of rural improvements.

28. **CO-OPERATION** — The co-operative movement continued to develop along established lines. There were 1,087 societies working, of which 643 were agricultural credit societies.

The total membership increased from 71,532 to 75,825. It is estimated that the movement directly affects 12 per cent of the population — the agricultural societies about 8 per cent of the village population and the non-agricultural about 25.4 per cent of the town population.

The financial position showed an all round improvement. The working capital increased from Rs. 117.84 lakhs to Rs. 137.99 lakhs, the share capital from Rs. 14.95 lakhs to Rs. 17.27 lakhs, deposits from members from Rs. 37.91 lakhs to Rs. 45.21 lakhs and the reserve and other funds from Rs. 19.98 lakhs to Rs. 21.51 lakhs.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 52.72 lakhs as against Rs. 40.77 lakhs in the previous year. The repayments improved from Rs. 38.37 lakhs to Rs. 46.76 lakhs and the loans outstanding at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 73.42 lakhs as against Rs. 67.78 lakhs in the previous year.

The total value of non-credit work increased from Rs. 38.34 lakhs to Rs. 59.56 lakhs, about Rs. 41.23 lakhs being on account of cotton sales.

The two land mortgage banks at Baroda and Navsari, extending their operation in almost all the talukas of the two districts, continued to work on sound lines.

29. MAJOR INDUSTRIES — All the major industrial establishments in the State continued to work during the year. The textile industry showed progress under the impetus of the conditions created by the war. The cotton mills increased their production by 12 per cent.

The Tata Chemicals Ltd., started in 1939 with a paid-up capital of Rs. 125 lakhs, made considerable progress. Heavy chemicals like liquid chlorine, potassium bromide, caustic soda, bleaching powder, zinc chloride etc., were produced. The manufacture of salt and its bye-products was continued. The Alembic Chemical Works continued to manufacture drugs, fine chemicals etc. A plant for the manufacture of sodium sulphite has been installed by the Hira Chemical Works.

Financial assistance in the form of loans or investments in share capital was given to a number of small concerns.

Industrial research continued satisfactorily and gave useful results.

The number of operatives in factories rose from 41,079 in 1941-42 to 43,088 in 1942-43. Dearness allowance on a liberal scale is being paid to labour. In order that the increased emoluments received by the labourers in the form of dearness allowance, bonus etc. due to war condition may not be frittered away, special efforts were made to start co-operative credit and thrift societies.

30. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES — For the development of cottage industries in the State, the Government maintain the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute at Baroda and in the villages a large

number of training classes at which scholarships are given to students. The Government also give grants to private institutions which promote the development of cottage industries and loans for starting them. Many students were trained in calico printing, block engraving, lacquer work, wood-carving etc.

31. **OKHA PORT** — The customs revenue increased from Rs. 25.17 lakhs to Rs. 38.60 lakhs. The receipts from port dues exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 1.74 lakhs. The capital expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 56,954 bringing the total capital expenditure on the port to Rs. 49.24 lakhs.

32. **STATISTICS DEPARTMENT** — The Director of Statistics is also the Superintendent of Insurance and Registrar of Joint stock companies. The department compiled the statistical abstract for the year 1941-42 and various other statistical statements and returns. It also looked after the insurance of State servants. 116 new companies were registered during the year. Rule 94 A of the Defence of India Rules was applied in the State making Government permission necessary before issuing capital in the State.

33. **FISHERIES** — Fishery surveys were continued and biological materials collected. The scheme for commercial manufacture of shark liver oil was continued. A revised scheme of experiments in curing, pickling and smoking of fish was accepted by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and will be in operation for two years from 1943 to 1945 at Kotdah.

34. **TELEPHONE** — The demand for telephones increased considerably but it could not be met owing to the shortage of materials. There are automatic telephone systems at Baroda, Navsari, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol and Mehsana. All these have been or are being connected with the trunk telephone systems. During the year, Mehsana Exchange and junction line and the Petlad- Baroda junction line were opened for local service.

35. **RAILWAYS** — The Baroda State is well served by railways; relatively to its size and population, it has the largest mileage in India. The total mileage of the railways owned by the State, including Bodeli-Chhota-Udaipur railway and Broach Jambusar railway was 795 miles. The Broach Jambusar railway with extensions to Kavi and Dahej, 72.38 miles in length was purchased from the Government of India from 1st October 1942. This narrow gauge line is linked with the Dabhoi-Jambusar line and forms a new junction with the B. B. & C. I. Rly., at Broach instead of at Jambusar. The net earnings of the railways amounted to Rs. 51.95 lakhs yielding a return of 8.87 % on the capital outlay of Rs. 589.82 lakhs.

36. **PUBLIC WORKS**—The Public Works department carried out a useful programme of irrigation work, water-works, roads, drainage works and building for hospitals and schools. The activities of the department, however, suffered owing to shortage of materials and the difficulties of transport and rising prices due to war. The work on the Vijapur tube well irrigation scheme in the Mehsana district and other irrigation projects was continued. The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 40.32 lakhs as against Rs. 45.85 lakhs in the previous year. The activities of the Public Works department are described in chapter XXIII.

37. **MEDICAL RELIEF**—During the year, there were 121 medical institutions in the State or 1 for every 23,595 persons. The scheme for grant-in-aid for village dispensaries was continued.

The extension of medical relief to women and children has been receiving constant attention from the Government. With the establishment of the Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust, all efforts in this direction have been co-ordinated and have received a new impetus. There were 31 maternity wards. Besides these, there were 45 trained midwives attached to the different districts. In the Baroda city there were 3 maternity wards attached to the Shree Sayaji General Hospital and one to the Jamnabai dispensary. Maternity and child welfare work was also done by the Shree Maharani Chinnabai Maternity and Child Welfare league.

The Shree Padmavati Devi Anti-Tuberculosis Sanatorium was opened on 17-3-1943 by Her Highness the Maharani Saheb. A specialist has been appointed as superintendent and the Sanatorium commenced work from 1-5-1943. Out of 80 beds 59 were occupied in two months. The anti-tuberculosis clinic attached to the Jamnabai dispensary continued its useful work of propaganda and treatment. The Tuberculosis Association received a donation of Rs. 0.80 lakh from certain personal friends of the Dewan Saheb on 12-4-1943.

38. **RURAL HEALTH**—The first part of the Foods Act has been applied to all the municipal towns in the State. The health unit attached to the Kosamba centre continued its activities:

Anti-malarial measures were conducted in the Baroda city, 12 municipal towns and 347 villages. Anti-guinea worm measures were taken in 36 villages and 103 water sources were disinfected by the liming process.

The State was free from plague during the year. 96,538 primary vaccinations against small-pox and 69,992 re-vaccinations were performed during the year.

39. MISCELLANEOUS — Pilgrim taxes levied at Dwarka and Beyt were abolished.

The Indian Tobacco Excise duty Act was applied to the State from 1-4-1943. Twenty-seven thousand Bengal maunds of tobacco were charged duty under this Act, which amounted to Rs. 4.57 lakhs during the year. According to the Act all persons dealing in tobacco have to take licences. The number of licences issued was 3,653 and the licence fee realised was a little more than 20 thousand rupees.

APPENDIX A

Message of Major His Highness Farzand-i-Khas-i-Dowlat-i-Englishia, Maharaja Sir Pratapsinh Gaekwar, Sena Khas Khel, Shamsher Bahadur, G. C. I. E., LL. D., to the Chiefs, Talukdars and Bhagdars and to the people of the States, Talukas and estates attached to the Baroda State.

It gives me very sincere pleasure to send my cordial greetings and good wishes to the Chiefs, Talukdars and Bhagdars and to the people of the States, Talukas and estates attached to the Baroda State under His Excellency the Crown Representative's communiqué of the 16th April. I cordially welcome the relationship now established: and it will be my constant endeavour as well as that of my Government to assist whole-heartedly in the achievement of the essential object in view which is, "the firm establishment of conditions in which the areas concerned will secure and enjoy full opportunity for progress and development."

2. My grandfather, the late Sir Sayajirao III of revered memory proposed the scheme from which the present arrangement has grown. You will recall that he referred to his scheme in the speech he made at the banquet given to His Excellency Lord Willingdon on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of his accession to the gadi. In a message to the people of the State during the Diamond Jubilee he announced the formation of a Trust in words which I extract below:-

"On this occasion when my people all over the State are celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of my accession, I desire to announce that I have decided, in commemoration of this happy event, to set apart a fund of one crore of rupees to be called the Diamond Jubilee Trust, the income of which will be devoted to improving the conditions of life of the rural population, especially those of the poor and of the depressed classes, supplementing the amount which will be progressively devoted to such purposes in the regular budgets of the State.

"As you well know, for over 55 years, I have laboured assiduously in the cause of rural development. Indeed no cause has been dearer to my heart. My ideal is to improve village life—all sides of it. I wish to develop in my people a keen desire for a higher standard of living—"a will to live better"—and a capacity for self-help and self-reliance. I earnestly

desire to make village life interesting and farming a career the rewards in which will satisfy the most enterprising among the villagers.

x x x x x

"I desire now to give a further stimulus to the movement I began 55 years ago. It is with this object that I am constituting this special fund. From the income of this, grants will be made for useful schemes like extensions of gamthans to relieve over-crowding, village water supplies, communications, educative work of all kinds etc. Special preference will be given (i) to the poorer areas which probably have been neglected in the past and (ii) to the needs of the backward communities like the Raniparaj, the Antyajas, the Thakardas, the Rabaries etc. As I have already said, this will be over and above the usual State expenditure, which I trust will increase with the expansion of revenues.

x x x x x

"It is my earnest hope that, by this action of mine, the happiness of my people may be increased and they may be led to a higher and better manner of living. Should even a part of this ambition be realised, I shall feel myself amply rewarded for a life-time dedicated to the well-being of my subjects".

I am confident that it would be in accordance with the wishes of His Highness the late Maharaja that the attached estates should share in the benefits of the Trust. I therefore announce that out of the income of the Trust a sum of Rs. 50,000 will be earmarked every year for promoting the objects of the Trust in the attached areas. I am also constituting today a Trust which will yield an income of Rs. 50,000 a year to supplement this annual grant of Rs. 50,000 from the Shri Sayaji Rao Diamond Jubilee Trust and for the same objects. Rules will be framed by my Minister, after due consultation with you, for the administration of these funds in the attached areas. These amounts will be over and above the annual allotments in the budgets for the attached areas for these purposes.

3. I am also setting apart a sum of Rs. 10,000 every year for grants for the education of the sons etc. of the Chiefs and Talukdars.

4. I conclude this short message with my renewed assurance to all of you of my readiness to give my full support to all schemes for the well-being of the people in the attached areas.

Laxmi Vilas Palace,
Baroda, 27th July 1943.

PRATAPSIKH GAEKWAR.

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